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28 PAGES

Biden wins Wilmington and Massachusetts

By **LIZZY HILL**
News Correspondent



WILMINGTON — On Super Tuesday, just over 5,000 out of approximately 17,000 total Wilmington voters showed up for the primary presidential vote. From unofficial results, Wilmington saw a total of 1,773 democratic votes for Joe Biden, with the next closest for Bernie Sanders (1,176).

Biden is expected to win Massachusetts with the most updated numbers over 425,543 as of this morning, followed by Sanders with 336,187 and Warren in third with 268,337.

Similarly for the state, Warren fell behind Biden and Sanders for Wilmington democratic ballot votes with 817. The next highest scores for candidates still in the race were Michael Bloomberg with 690 and Tulsi Gabbard with 44. Though as late as this week candidates Andrew Yang, Amy Klobuchar, Pete Buttigieg, Deval Patrick, Michael Bennet, John Delaney, Cory Booker, Marianne Williamson, Julián Castro, and Tom Steyer had dropped out of the democratic race, their names remained on the Super Tuesday ballot.

Republican ballots offered presidential options William Weld, Joe Walsh, Donald Trump, and Roque "Rocky" De La Fuente. Trump received the most votes with 1,556, and the rest of the candidates saw fewer than 100 votes.

Jeffrey Yull received more votes for State

ELECTION | PAGE 11

◀ Campaigners are sparse at Wilmington Town Hall's polling place.

(photo: BruceHilliard.com)

Family hurt when unable to see relative before passing

By **CASSIA BURNS**
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — The morning of Tuesday, Feb. 25, Kalie McGibbon learned her grandfather, long-time Wilmington resident Russell McGibbon, passed away. This did not necessarily come as a surprise; McGibbon and her family were made aware of her grandfather's turn for the worst on Saturday morning. However, due to unforeseen circumstances, the family were unable to see him before his passing.

McGibbon and her family were prevented from seeing Russell by his wife, who was serving as his primary caretaker during his hospice treatment, in addition to some help from hospice care nurses.

In the years leading up to his death, Russell had been affected by numerous long term illnesses that contributed to his eventual transition into hospice care. Initially he was diagnosed with bladder cancer, but he also suffered from heart issues as well as COPD, tied to his heavy smoking habit. Shortly before his death, he was placed on portable oxygen.

According to McGibbon's mother, Ellen Costa, herself and her other siblings had been estranged from their stepmother for many years. When things took a turn for the worse over the weekend, she restricted who was able to see Russell, including his immedi-

ate family. McGibbon was shocked by the situation and said this would not have been what her grandfather would have wanted.

"It blows my mind that something like this could happen," she said. "I know his final wish would not have been for everything to end up this way."

While McGibbon was able to sneak in a few moments to say goodbye to her grandfather, many of her other family members, including her mother, could not. The situation was especially traumatizing for Costa, for as a child, she was unable to say goodbye to her own mother before her death. The lack of closure stemming from both parents' passings has caused much emotional distress.

When initially faced with this conflict, McGibbon and her family tried numerous resources in order to see Russell. They reached out to many hospice care services in the area to pinpoint who was caring for Russell, but had no success. Additionally, they reached out to several lawyers in order to see if there were any legal solutions to the issue, but found there were no rapid solutions.

As a last resort, they reached out to the Wilmington Police Department. Due to the nature of the situation, the most the Wilmington Police Department could do was perform a wellness check.

In sharing their story, McGibbon and family hope to raise awareness of a challenging situation that occurs within many families. By raising awareness, they hope that a path for legal action or other resources to combat unjust situations may come to fruition, and other families will not have to endure this kind of pain.

Coming school year to feature additional half-days

By **LIZZIE MCDERMOTT**
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — The Wilmington School Committee approved the 2020-2021 school calendar at a meeting on Feb. 26. This calendar was notably different from other recent calendars in that it contains more early release days for staff development.

One original date proposed for June has been removed, but three additional days remain on the schedule, increasing the total number from six to nine.

School Committee member Jay Samaha voted against the new schedule. He expressed concern

that families may struggle to find transportation and childcare options with such frequency.

"What is the impact of so many early release days on working families?" asked Samaha. "I think we've already had a significant number of early release days, and adding more is putting too much of a burden on families."

Other committee members expressed some concern over the changes, while ultimately voting to approve the new schedule. Committee member MJ Byrnes expressed the need to balance the needs of instructors with the need to optimize time spent in the classroom.

"The need of the social emotional piece, it's only growing," said Byrnes, in reference to the growing professional development needs of educators.

"I think we do need to take that action to ensure that our students get what they need consistently across the board from our staff," she added.

Board Vice Chair Steve Bjork added that the committee should continue to look at new ways to allow for professional development while also minimizing classroom disruption.

"I also don't think the half day is effective for the child," Bjork said. "Maybe we need to look

at... looking at the collaborative agreement with the teachers, and add a couple of days to the school year for them."

Committee members David Ragsdale and Jo Newhouse also voted to approve the new calendar, suggesting that it was too late to constructively change the paradigm in time for next year, but that the discussion should be continued in order to possibly make changes further into the future.

"I feel like our hands are tied with the collective bargaining agreement as it stands now," said Newhouse.

Billerica's John Paul Moran to challenge Seth Moulton for US congressional seat

By **LIZZY HILL**
News Correspondent

BILLERICA — Republican John Paul Moran of Billerica has announced his candidacy for the Middlesex 6th district Congressional seat. Seth Moulton (D) has occupied the seat since 2014, winning re-elections in

MORAN | PAGE 12

◀ Republican candidate for US Congress John Paul Moran (left) collects signatures with Republican State Committeeman candidate Anthony Ventresca. He hopes to challenge current US Congressman Seth Moulton in November.

(photo courtesy John Paul Moran on Facebook)



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Wilmington Library Notes

by Christina Stewart

Health and Wellness Fair on Saturday, March 14

Community Health and Wellness Fair

Saturday, March 14, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Location: Wilmington Knights of Columbus
Spring into wellness! Local businesses and organizations specializing in mental and physical wellness will be on hand to answer questions and showcase their products/services. Complimentary health screenings, demonstrations, giveaways, prize drawings, and more. Free to the public—all welcome! Provided in collaboration with the Wilmington/Tewksbury Chamber of Commerce and the Town of Wilmington Elderly Services; partially funded with federal funds provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.

Upcoming Events

Please register online using our Calendar of Events

at www.wilmlibrary.org or by calling (978) 694-2099 (for Adult) or (978) 694-2098 (for Youth). Please note we request registration for programs that are marked *RR. Adult programs are recommended for those 16 years of age and older. Thank you to the Friends of the Library for program funding support!

Fiction Critique Group

Saturday, March 7, 9:15 a.m.

Whether you are drafting a short story or a novel, joining our Critique Group is a great opportunity to meet other writers and get constructive feedback in a supportive environment. When registering, please provide your email address so you can receive an agenda and any prep materials before the meeting. Open to all experience levels writing in all genres. Led by local writing enthusiast, Barbara Alevras.

Organic Vegetable Gardening *RR

Monday, March 9, 6:30 p.m.

Suzanne Crooker, who has worked in the vegetable department at Mahoney's for several years will tell you all you need to know to start and sustain an organic vegetable garden. Topics include soil conditioning, planting and harvesting schedule, fertilizing techniques, and insect and disease identification and controls.

How to Speak Dog *RR

Tuesday, March 10, 7 p.m.

Learn what makes your dog tick and how to improve his behavior from professional dog trainer and owner of BlueDog, Kimberly Palermo. She will cover how dogs learn, what your dog is saying and discuss common misconceptions about our four-legged friends. She will then teach the best techniques to communi-

cate with your dog and improve his behavior. Kim will bring her dog Lady for a demonstration.

eBooks for Kindle *RR

Tuesday, March 10, 10 a.m.

Do you have a Kindle? Would you like to access popular ebooks, audiobooks, and magazines for free? Bring your Kindle and get hands-on experience navigating the library's digital collection and borrowing titles that spark your interest.

Wilmington/Tewksbury History: Planes, Trains, and More! *RR

Thursday, March 12, 7 p.m.

How did Wilmington and Tewksbury change with the advent of trolleys, airports, and a nearby Interstate? In this panel discussion, Kevin Farrell will talk about the trolley history of Wilmington & Tewksbury and Earl Hupper, who worked at the Tew-Mac Airport will share his stories.

Kids & Teen Events

Baby Laptime *RR

Monday, March 9, 9:30 a.m.

Join us for a morning of songs, tickles, bounces, and rhymes perfect for little pre-walking babies and their caregivers. Infants-

18 months

Exploration Station: Five Senses *RR

Monday, March 9, 10:30 a.m.

Explore science through hands on activities. Ages 3-5

Read to Thor *RR

Tuesday, March 10 5-6:30 p.m.

Come meet and read to Thor, a wonderful dog who loves to listen to kids read! Sign up for one 15 minute session per reader. Grades K-5

World Languages Foreign Film Nights *RR

Tuesday, March 10, 6:30 p.m.

Watch movies in Spanish, Italian, and French with English subtitles. Popcorn provided. Grades 9-12

Star Mag *RR

Wednesday, March 11, 3:45 p.m.

Calling all kid writers and artists! Drop in to help create this magazine written by, for and about kids, and published by the library. Grades 3-6

Kindergarten Book Club *RR

Thursday, March 12, 3:45 p.m.

This book club is for Kin-

dergarteners who miss storytime or those who love to be read to. We will read and discuss a few books together, then do a fun activity. Kindergarten

MCBA Middle Grade Book Club Voting Party *RR

Friday, March 13, 3:45 p.m.

If you have read at least 5 books on the MCBA list, come to this party to vote for your favorite and enjoy some snacks. Grades 4-6

Kids Craft: Constellation Lantern *RR

Saturday, March 14, 2 p.m.

This craft is led by 3 Wilmington High School students. Grades 1-5

Dungeons & Dragons

Saturday, March 14, 1:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Interested in finding out more about this fantasy tabletop role-playing game, or looking for a group to play with? Join DM Alex for a campaign! Grades 6-12

Writing Sprints *RR

Saturday, March 14, 3 - 5 p.m.

Write in the quiet comfort of the library in the company of other writers. Grades 9-12

Explore Wilmington's and Tewksbury's old railroads, trolleys and airports

WILMINGTON — The Wilmington Memorial Library and Tewksbury Public Library are partnering up to provide a special local history program on what transportation was like in Wilmington and Tewksbury in the 19th and 20th centuries.

Past and present residents of both towns are invited to attend "Planes, Trains and Automobiles!" on Thursday, March 12, 2020, from 7 to 9 p.m., at the Wilmington Memorial Library (175 Middlesex Ave.).

In these three interrelated presentations, UMass

Lowell librarian & train photographer Ron Karr will discuss the railroad history of Wilmington & Tewksbury, "Trolleys of the Merrimack Valley" author Kevin Farrell will explore the trolley history of both communities, and Earl Hupper, whose family owned the Tew-Mac Airport, will share his stories.

Each presentation will last approximately 30 minutes, followed by a brief audience Q&A.

This program is sponsored by the Wilmington Memorial Library and Tewksbury Public Library, in collaboration with the Wilmington Historical Commission and Tewksbury Historical Society. A special thank you to Wilmington Town Museum Curator Terry McDermott for her assistance.

Space is limited. Register by calling the Wilmington Memorial Library at 978-658-2967 or visiting the library's online calendar of events at www.wilmlibrary.org.



The Wilmington-Tewksbury Chamber of Commerce welcomes "Danvers Indoor Sports"

Welcome to Wilmington! Steve Pettengill, VP, North Shore Bank, co-owner Mark Mscisz, State Rep. Dave Robertson, Lil' Kickers Mascot, from Senator Bruce Tarr's office Mary Ann Nay, director/owner Kelly Gragg and Andrew Douglas Danvers Indoor Sports Assistant Manager. (photo: BruceHilliard.com)

News and notes from WCTV

By SHAUN NEVILLE
WCTV Executive Director

Next Wednesday, March 11, will be my final day at Wilmington Community Television. It has been a pleasure to lead to lead this organization as Executive Director for the past four years. I think WCTV has changed quite a bit since I joined in late 2015. My hope is that the station can continue pushing forward under new leadership.

From Day One, I saw WCTV not as just a community television station, but as a community non-profit serving the Town of Wilmington. Sure, volunteer producers could still come in and use WCTV to showcase their talents or share their passions. But I thought the station also had a responsibility to inform its audience on issues facing the community.

The role of staff wasn't

just to help build television shows and train members on equipment, but also to talk with community leaders and elected officials about how WCTV could be a platform for their message.

We also needed to grow our online presence. When I came in, WCTV had social media channels and was posting videos online. But those efforts needed to be amped up to cater to an audience that was increasingly finding their content online, not through our traditional television channels.

Maybe I'm biased, but I think WCTV's Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages are all "must-follows" for people who use those platforms. I hope when you go to wctv.org, you often find something new, whether that be a video, information on a youth program or a blog post about station activity. A lot of that content has

been available for years, but we weren't always doing a great job promoting it (truth be told, more can still be done to educate the public about who we are and what we do.)

I would bet that more than half of the kids at Wilmington High School have watched a WCTV video in the past year. That probably means their parents have watched something, too. Maybe their grandparents, whether they live in Wilmington or out-of-state, have clicked on a video link that shows a concert, a game, graduation or a talent show. That kind of reach shows how WCTV supports the community.

I will miss a lot of people who I met over the past several years (and maybe not miss a few). I think because I grew up in Wilmington, there was a perception that I was re-connecting with a lot of folks. And while that certainly

happened, the reality is that I spent 15 years away from Wilmington and a lot of new faces were around the community when I came in. It was great to get to know so many folks, hear about their experiences in town and, often, how they hoped to continue to make Wilmington a nice place to live.

The search for WCTV's next Executive Director is well underway. I hope you will all welcome that person, just as you welcomed me. They will bring a new perspective to the job and perhaps look to make some changes in how we've operated over the past four years. Change can be a good thing, especially if you've got the right person steering the ship.

I'm sure I'll see some of you in the months to come at community events (I have plenty of family still in town). Just don't look for me holding a camera or a microphone.

DiFronzo, Bloom make First Honors at Bishop Fenwick

PEABODY — Thomas Nunan, President, and Cecilia Márquez, Principal, of Bishop Fenwick

High School announce the Honor Roll for the second quarter.

• Rachel DiFronzo of Wilmington, a senior, made First Honors.

• Dillon Bloom of Wil-

lington, a sophomore, made First Honors.

• Use empty cereal bags as snack storage bags, can liners, freezer bags, or cut to place between burgers to freeze.
• You can wash and

~Recycling Tip of the Week~

reuse aluminum foil over and over again.

• Use take out containers as drawer organizers.

• Use an empty wipes container to store car trash bags.

• Save up steel bottle

caps in a steel can a when it is full, squeeze it shut. The caps alone are too small for the recycling machine, but contained in a steel can, the magnet can collect it.

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by Todd Brisbois



IRS PROVIDES VARIOUS PAYMENT OPTIONS

The IRS urges people with a filing requirement and a balance due to file by the April 15 deadline even if they cannot pay in full. Taxpayers in this situation should pay what they can and consider a payment plan for the remaining balance.

Taxpayers who owe taxes can choose among the following payment options:

- IRS Direct Pay allows payment directly from a checking or savings account. This service is free.
- Electronic Federal Tax Payment System, or EFTPS. Pay by phone or online. This service is free.
- Debit or credit card payment. This service is free, but the processing company may charge a fee. Fees vary by company.
- Check or money order made payable to the United States Treasury (or U.S. Treasury) either in person or through the mail.
- Cash payments at some IRS offices or at a participating PayNearMe location. Some restrictions apply. Taxpayers should not send cash through the mail.

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History:

Two touring cars and a democrat wagon featured at North Wilmington auction

By LARZ F. NEILSON

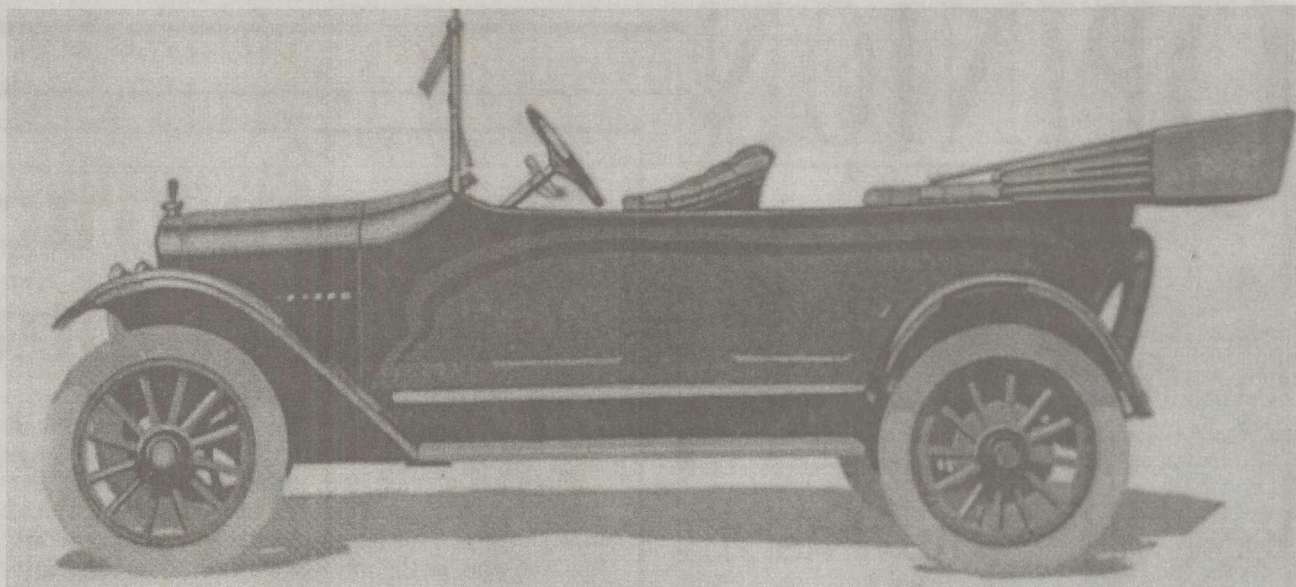
If you were hoping to buy a touring car at the big auction in North Wilmington, advertised in the *Boston Globe*, sorry, you're a century too late. Make that 104 years.

The auction at the North Wilmington Nursery in April 1916 had two such cars, a Cadillac and a Maxwell. The nursery was on Woburn Street at the end of High Street, north of Park Street. The property was largely taken by the state for the construction of Route 93.

Barrows hired Arthur H. Jewett to run the auction. The first items listed in the

advertisement were the Cadillac and the Maxwell. The years of the cars were not stated. Touring cars were large convertibles, something that would be of no use to a farmer.

The advertisement said that Barrows had purchased the property and contents from J.J. Bond. If that was correct, it is not known how long J. J. Bond owned the property. Barrows had purchased the 100-acre nursery from Jacob Manning in the early 1890's. He had been a teacher in Reading when Manning ran into financial troubles. Manning also had a nursery in Reading.



▲ The Maxwell touring car was typical of touring cars built in the era before World War I. A Maxwell and a Cadillac were in the 1916 auction at the North Wilmington Nursery.

Barrows later bought the Winn farm at Lowell and Woburn streets, where he would live for the next 60 years. In 1916, he was chairman of the Board of Selectmen.

Joseph Justin Bond was from Wilmington, the son of Thomas Davis Bond and Olive Thompson Bond. His grandfather, Capt. Joseph Bond started a bak-

ery in Wilmington after the Revolutionary War. By the time J.J. Bond was born in 1862, there were two bakeries, one owned by his father, the other by his uncle, twins.

The Bond crackers were considered a staple by country folk, as they would not readily spoil. They were sold around New England by vendors in brightly-painted wagons.

J.J. Bond was born in 1862 in the Italianate house that is now St. Thomas Rectory. Two years later, the two Bond bakeries burned, and the Congregational Church along with them. The bakeries relocated to Boston, and the business carried on.

Bond's older brother was Arthur T. Bond, who started an advertising agency, Bond of Boston. He collected substantial material on Wilmington's history and created the town seal, with the image of the Whitefield Elm. He left town after the Town Meeting turned down his offer

to write a town history. A substantial collection of his historical material was purchased by the town in 1997.

Few records have been found about J.J. Bond. He married Margaret M. Cole in 1884, and the couple moved to North Dakota. In the Wilmington records, two children are listed as born there. They kept their New England roots, though. In 1898, the *Boston Globe* ran a brief note that they were staying at Parker's (The Parker House). A similar note in 1911 said they were at Sebago Lake.

If J.J. Bond had a career, it was probably in the family business. Considering that there were two expensive cars in the auction, it might be assumed that he was wealthy. Possibly the cars had been owned by others in his family.

Other auction items included wagons and farming tools, a two-horse tipcart, a two-horse platform

wagon with sideboards, a log or lumber truck, a double-runner pung, a double-seated sleigh, a democrat wagon (two-seat), top and open buggies and a Hercules stump puller, a 6 h.p. gasoline engine and saw table in first-class order, mowing machine, horse rack, wheelbarrow, sulky plow, smoothing harrow, lot of cultivators, grindstone, double harness, two harnesses, a lot of odds and ends of harness, rope and blocks, a lot of small tools, chains, etc, plus two flat-top desks and some articles of furniture.

The large number of items raises the possibility that the auctioneer loaded in items from other estates. Auctioneer Arthur Jewett and Barrows were both involved with the Quannapowitt Agricultural Association. In September that year, at the association's fair in Reading, Barrows was in charge of the work horse competition and Jewett the horse and pony section.



▲ The farmhouse at North Wilmington stood on Woburn Street near the end of High Street. It was destroyed in 1957 to make way for I-93. This photo dates from about 1910.

Tewksbury Police Dept. to conduct annual Citizen Police Academy

TEWKSBURY — What is the Tewksbury Citizen Police Academy? The Citizen Academy is a series of classes sponsored by the Tewksbury Police Department. It's designed to educate attendees about the Tewksbury Police Department, its organization, operations, and role in the community.

Participants are instructed by members of the department as to the responsibilities of their various units. Citizens gain an understanding of the challenges facing law enforcement in today's world.

Students are given the opportunity not only to learn, but to offer ideas and solutions. The goal of the academy is to develop a unique partnership between citizens and their

police department in a way that benefits both.

Who can attend? The Tewksbury Police Department Citizen Police Academy is offered to all residents 18 years of age or older. Participants MUST not have a criminal history. A background check is conducted on all applicants. Candidates must be able to commit to the class schedule. Only one excused absence will be allowed in order to graduate and receive a Certificate of Completion.

When is the next Citizen Police Academy? The next Citizen Academy begins April 1, 2020 and continues through graduation on May 20, 2020. The Academy is held at the Tewksbury Police Department. Classes run for eight weeks from 7 - 9 p.m.

each Wednesday night.

Topics may include, but are not limited to: Criminal Law, Criminal Investigations, Domestic Violence, Motor Vehicle Law, Identity Theft, Internet Safety, K9, and more...

Applications can be downloaded on the Tewksbury Police Department website at <https://www.tewksbury-ma.gov/node/2291/files> and mailed/hand delivered by March 20, 2020 to: Tewksbury Police Department

Attention: Officer Jennie Welch
918 Main St.
Tewksbury, MA 01876
(Please attend with a friend. Call Safety Officer Welch @ 978-851-7373 ext. 230 with questions)



"Heart of a Lion"

▲ Congratulations to both John Deputat and Sherry Hubbard for receiving The "Heart of a Lion Award." This award is given to those who have gone above and beyond in the Lions Club Organization. Both John and Sherry have held many positions within the Tewksbury Lions Club and continue to serve where and whenever needed. Their dedication and hard work has contributed greatly to the success of the Tewksbury Lions Club. This distinguished award is given on behalf of its creator John Pettis, a 40+ year member of the Lions Club organization.
(photo: Bruce Hilliard.com)

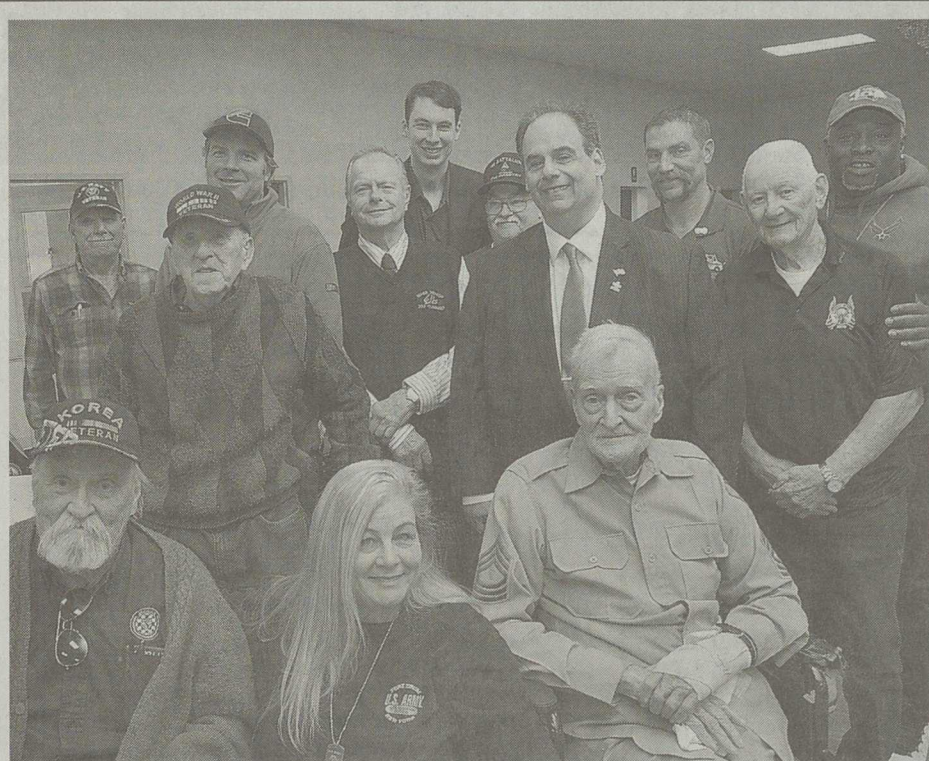


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Tewksbury-Wilmington Elks hold veterans breakfast

The Tewksbury-Wilmington Elk's Veteran's Breakfast. Elk VIP's and veterans gather for a photograph to remember the day. Exalted Ruler Darlene Lockhart (center), WW-11 veterans Dan Rel Dwyer, Art Lockhart and Alfred Consigli, Elk's Veteran's Chairman Ray Metcalfe, Wilmington Selectman Mike McCoy, Jeff Kennan, State Rep Dave Roberson, Mike Bennett, Al Consigli's caretaker John Goodwin, and friends.

(photo: Bruce Hilliard.com)



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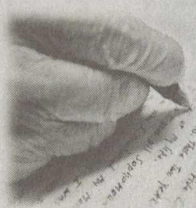
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OPINION



Letters to the editor

Red light cameras take money, but don't stop accidents

(The following is an editorial from State Representative David Robertson)

As anyone who drives down Route 38 can attest, our traffic volume in Tewksbury and Wilmington is continuing to increase. School, work, errands, sports — there are a seemingly endless number of reasons why we are spending more and more time in our vehicles, rushing here and there, trying to make everything fit into the tight schedule of life.

And in doing so, who hasn't pushed the boundaries of the occasional yellow light? We all have and yet we all know we shouldn't. Yellow becomes red — and that can change things for you, very quickly.

Whether it's the police cruiser sitting at the intersection or another car whose light just turned green, there could be a heavy price to pay for taking that risk. It is a danger we all face while out on the road — and now there is a new old solution again being offered: red light cameras.

However, these cameras would be doing a lot more than just policing red light runners, they will be able to record and ticket you for speeding, driving in a bus lane, and a multitude of other "ticket-able" offenses. If this all seems a little too Orwellian for you, you're not alone.

Besides the significant privacy and revenue-gen-

erating issues at play here, red light cameras aren't all they're cracked up to be when it comes to their supposed main job: minimizing accidents.

A 2017 Case Western University/Arizona University joint study found that red light cameras merely traded one type of accident for others; "broad-sides" were reduced in areas with cameras but "rear-endings" and other types of accidents actually increased.

Most importantly, there was no reduction to the frequency of injuries at intersections where cameras had been installed. On the other hand, ABC News reported that a simple 1.5 second yellow light time extension was shown to reduce all accidents by 50 percent. Isn't that interesting?

So what exactly is driving this most recent push for red light cameras? We all want safer roads — but as we see, the cameras aren't an effective solution in the regard. What we do know they'll be effective at is separating drivers from their cash while ignoring real, permanent solutions to high-crash intersections.

Let's instead improve our roads. Let's focus on enforcing our current laws against distracted drivers. And while we're at it, let's stretch those yellows out a bit and see if we can increase the flow of traffic without the flow of cash, cash originating from failed infrastructure.

Get Wilmington Good Guy nominations in

To the editor,

There are three major issues on your calendar this week.

1. The Coronavirus scare is not going away. Use hand sanitizer and avoid touching your mouth, eyes and nose as best you can.

2. Time to start getting your taxes filed. There are six weeks to go!

3. And most importantly, get those 2020 Wilmington Good Guy nominations in!

There are many folks in Wilmington who were not even born when restaurant owner Rocco Depasquale was named the first recipient of the Wilmington Good Guy Award. Despite that, many of those "youngsters" continue to carry on Rocco's legacy of community service today without looking for anything in return.

This year the Wilmington Good Guy Committee is looking to honor another one of those individuals who exemplifies the best of Wilmington; someone who volunteers and works tirelessly to make things better for everyone in town without looking for anything in return.

Please tell us about this individual! What sets them apart from the others? How have they made Wilmington a better place to live?

Tell us about their volun-

teer efforts, their fundraising endeavors, their ability to engage and encourage others to act in a similar way!

Whether they be involved in youth activities, senior citizen events, town-sponsored programs, or just stepping up and being involved in the community when there is a need, let us know whom you think would be a fitting honoree for this year's award. This year's winner will be honored on May 8 at the Wilmington Knights of Columbus Hall with a dinner and a good natured "Roast."

Nominations can be mailed to the Wilmington Good Guy Committee at 9 Reed St. Wilmington 01887, or e-mailed to wgoodguy@verizon.net. Be specific about how this individual serves the community!

Nominations must be received by 5 p.m. on March 20, 2020.

Thank you!
Wilmington Good Guy Committee

(A reminder that an individual serving in a paid or elected position for the town cannot be nominated in connection with the activities for which they are being recognized)

Want your opinion heard?

We LOVE your letters!
Send Letters to the Editor to:

office@yourtowncrier.com.

All submissions must be accompanied by full name, address, and daytime contact information for verification purposes.

Letters must be e-mailed by noon on Monday in order for consideration the same week's edition.

New construction, drainage and sculpture activities

By PAUL ANDREWS

March has arrived and the walkers at Horn Pond in Woburn were far fewer this weekend, as the weather took a downward dip in the area.

Election fever fills the air for those who are watching the nightly polls of the candidates. Weathercast folks explain their predictions or reasons why they missed the warmer winter.

Ads on television are getting ridiculous with one showing a guy hanging out of his car window, a woman standing up in a speeding car taking photographs, plus so many other events that keep you focused on the real happenings and some of the stupidity of the world we live.

Community happenings

So much is going on these days as city and town committees are hard at work in meetings that could bring about some real changes and in fact are already bringing a great number of discussions at local Dunkin' shops and the Town Panty, plus other informal gatherings.

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION in East Woburn is at an all time high in the Commerce Way area with a huge changeover of the Market Basket Plaza at Commerce and Mishawum undergoing a huge

construction of apartment house units and a large number of retail facilities.

This past week, local police were on detail, just to allow vehicles to find the store they wanted to visit or make a purchase. To say the parking lot in the area was impossible is not an overstatement.

DRAINAGE COSTS, water that is allowed to enter the public roads, to make the issue simple, is an active discussion in Winchester and may be quantified with a subsequent cost, based on the amount of the water that leaves a home, apartment, business to the streets.

This translates considerably to the hills on both sides of the town with the funds being used by the community for needed improvements in water projects. So, if you have a lot of impervious area at your home near the roads or streets of the town, you may see some action on this issue raised by town officials last year and reportedly back again this year.

SCULPTURE FACILITIES may appear in place on the Burlington Common, according to reports that have not been finalized by municipal boards. The beautiful park is located along Cambridge Street across from the US Post Office off Center Street near the Burlington Police Department. The

area is always kept so well over the year and many families enjoy the area in all seasons.

No final decision has been made by officials on this issue.

DECISION-MAKING TIME is now and usually moving in all communities at a rapid pace, as boards and commissions often come up with reports of earlier meetings to activate some discussion, decisions and where needed to seek funding if necessary in the local budget sequence.

Unusual thanks

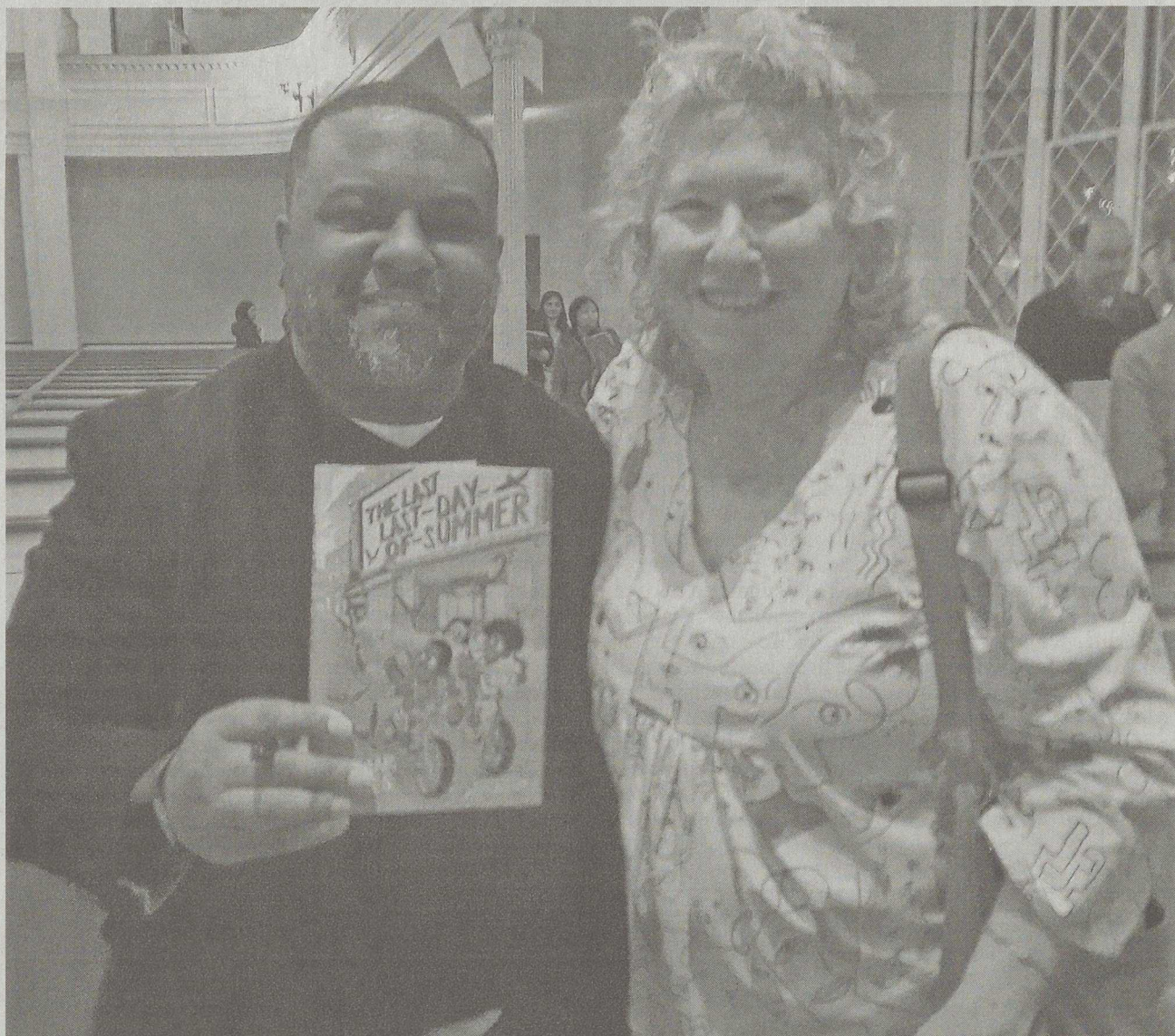
This past week, Woburn Fire Chief Steve Adgate went public with his thanks to local officials for their votes in support of the Woburn Fire Department's \$30 million building plans for the very active department in all sections of the city, especially on the proposed site of a new headquarters just about across Main Street from Middlesex Canal Road and near Route 128/95 with easier accesses to Wilmington, Burlington and other nearby communities under mutual aid.

These much-needed facilities have been discussed for some time and will phase out Engine 2 in North Woburn and Engine 3 in Central Square, still carrying the

history of horses responding to fires from that building. My sense is that this was a "class act" to thank all local officials for their support and vote on such an important issue.

JUST A NOTE: My thanks for your many comments on last weeks column and e-mails to andrews@massupt.org.

Following are some of the latest extractions from the Morning Pulse: "Millennials struggle the most with money management and financial stress; Caffeinated coffee, chocolate good for the brain; Aging US population threatens state budgets; Medical mask prices surge on Amazon after CDC comments on coronavirus in US; Facial recognition firm's entire client list exposed in data breach; Husband neglects updating insurance beneficiary; Oil slides while gold heads to \$1,700 as virus rocks commodities; EU set for final push to toughen post-Brexit trade stance; Congress just made passing an IRA down to your children a lot harder; Millennials are financially behind prior generations at same life stage; Older Americans are aging in place, are their homes ready and New report finds only 16 percent of millennials qualify as "financially literate."



▲ Author Lamar Giles and Book Stew host Eileen MacDougall meet on his book tour, April 2019 (Courtesy photo)

Book Stew's favorite writer Lamar Giles

The March episode of Book Stew features guest Lamar Giles, author and co-founder of We Need Diverse Books.

Lamar has just published his first YA novel *Not So Pure And Simple*, and in his fourth appearance with host Eileen MacDougall, Lamar shares coughs and sneezes (both host and guest were under the weather during the Skype taping) and also the hilarious backstory of how the plot of his new book came about.

In it, protagonist Del Rainey is caught between

warring forces in his school's sex education class and his church's Purity Pledge friends.

Please check out the new Book Stew episode on WCTV on Tuesdays at 1 p.m., Wednesdays at 8 p.m., Friday at 7 p.m., and Saturdays at noon. Also available on demand:

Video

<https://wilmington.vodcastus.tv/vod/?video=628ac326-c4c6-49b2-a147-258aa5c522ec>

Podcast

<https://soundcloud.com/wctvpodcasting/book-stew-ep-78-lamar-giles>

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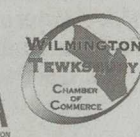
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Baker-Polito Administration awards grants to help municipalities meet stormwater permitting requirements

BOSTON — The Baker-Polito Administration awarded \$300,000 in grants to five stormwater coalitions across the Commonwealth to help local cities and towns meet existing and upcoming stormwater management requirements. The grants, funded by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), were awarded to the Statewide Stormwater Coalition, Central Massachusetts Regional Stormwater Coalition, Southeast Regional Stormwater Coalition, the Massachusetts Maritime Academy for Buzzards Bay Stormwater Collaborative, and the Northern Middlesex Stormwater Collaborative.

"Municipalities across Massachusetts face significant hurdles in their effort to reduce pollution from stormwater, and these grants help cities and towns accomplish that important work," said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Kathleen Theoharides. "Funding regional stormwater coalitions ensures that all communities throughout the Commonwealth will benefit from more efficient management and better protection of key environmental resources."

"I am proud to see that cities and towns are working collaboratively as stormwater coalitions to address requirements of the MS4 permit," said MassDEP Commissioner Martin Suuberg. "With stormwater being the greatest source of contamination in our rivers, streams, lakes and ponds, I am pleased to support these coalitions directly so they can work towards protecting our water resources across the Commonwealth."

The funding will enable groups of Massachusetts municipalities to expand their efforts to meet requirements under the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit, issued jointly by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and MassDEP, and reduce stormwater pollution through coordinated partnerships that emphasize resource sharing. More than 240 Massachusetts municipalities are subject to the 2016 MS4 permit, which took effect on July 1, 2018.

Permit requirements that the municipalities subject to the MS4 permit must

meet include the development and implementation of a Public Education program, adopting more stringent local development rules, and locating and removing pollutants that are illegally entering municipal stormwater systems.

The groups receiving awards are:

Statewide Stormwater Coalition - \$107,795

This project will further expand the "Think Blue Massachusetts" statewide stormwater public awareness and education campaign that helps each MS4 community meet MS4 education and outreach requirements. The proposed project includes expanded advertising to build awareness and brand recognition, new messaging for certain impaired waters, an interactive social media contest, planning for a Think Blue Massachusetts symposium, and training.

Central Massachusetts Regional Stormwater Coalition (CMRSWC) - \$28,000

This project offers workshops to meet the Illicit Discharge Detection and

OBITUARY

Patricia A. (Cusano) Senarian Services were Wednesday morning

Patricia A. (Cusano) Senarian, age 63, of Wilmington, passed away peacefully on Feb. 28, surrounded by her loving family.

Beloved wife of Gary Senarian of Wilmington, loving mother of Jeff Senarian and his wife Monique of Westford, David Senarian and his wife Emily of Tewksbury and Mike Senarian and his wife Jackie of Wilmington, cherished "Nonni" of Jeffrey Jr., Gianna, Tessa, Anya, Dante and Drew.

Daughter of the late Richard and Helen (Pace) Cusano, dear sister of Robyn DiPietro of

Tilton, NH, sister-in-law of Debra Sullivan and her husband Greg of Maynard.

Patricia is also survived by nieces, nephews, as well as many cousins and friends.

Family and friends gathered for a funeral mass at St. Thomas of Villanova Church, 126 Middlesex Ave, Wilmington, on Wednesday, March 4, at 10 a.m. Interment followed in Wildwood Cemetery. Visiting hours were held at the Nichols Funeral Home, 187 Middlesex Ave (Rt. 62) Wilmington, on Tuesday, March 3, from 4 - 8 p.m.

Memorial donations in



Patricia's name can be made to Compassionate Care Hospice, 800 West Cummings Park, Suite 3100, Woburn, MA 01801.

Elimination training requirement for CMRSWC members and additional MS4 communities.

Southeast Regional Stormwater Coalition (SRWC) - \$55,000

This project will offer workshops to up to 20 towns in which both SRSC communities and others would develop their required Operation and Maintenance Plans for Parks and Open Space, Buildings and Facilities, Vehicles and Equipment and Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans.

Northern Middlesex Stormwater Collaborative - \$62,504

This project will develop a bylaw/ordinance and regulations and permit-tracking materials to address construction site runoff control and post construction stormwater management at development and redevelopment sites, as required by the 2016 MS4 Permit by June 30, 2020.

Massachusetts Maritime Academy for Buzzards Bay Stormwater Collaborative - \$46,700

This project will outfit and customize an Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination utility trailer for use by the eight Buzzards Bay municipalities;

and includes training for municipal staff, Massachusetts Maritime Academy (MMA) staff and MMA Co-op students.

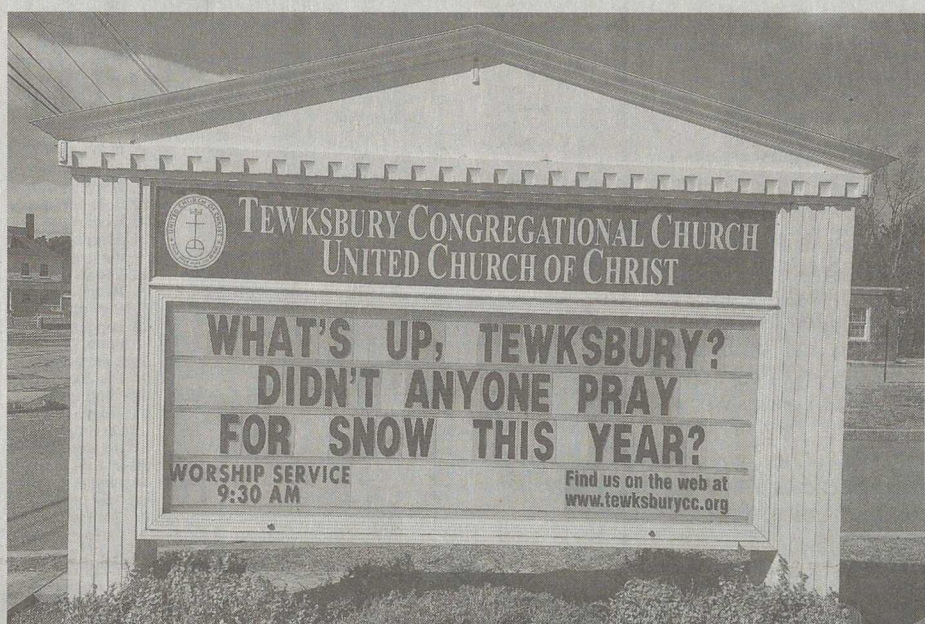
"I am grateful for the release of this grant funding, and the work of the Baker-Polito Administration to prioritize stormwater protection efforts," said State Senator Anne Gobi (D-Spencer), Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture. "These funds go a long way towards raising awareness and training our area towns on how to prepare for potential storms and the pollutants they carry to our waterways."

"I applaud MassDEP in awarding these MS4 stormwater grants to assist municipalities around the Commonwealth in developing effective stormwater management solutions," said State Representative Smitty Pignatelli (D-Lenox), House Chair of the Joint Committee on the Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture. "Ensuring that our cities and towns are well-equipped to handle these challenges will go far in preventing the harmful environmental and public health effects of stormwater runoff and pollution."

"Our municipalities work

hard to meet the existing and upcoming stormwater management requirements, and aid from the state through these grants is critical in their endeavors," said State Senator Ryan Fattman (R-Sutton). "The grants will help educate the public on pollutants illegally entering our stormwater system, as well as assist the municipalities seeking to meet updated stormwater requirements. I am grateful to the Baker-Polito Administration, in conjunction with the Department of Environmental Protection, for their investment in our communities' stormwater systems, and will continue to support these programs that benefit our municipalities."

"It is imperative that we continue to educate communities across the Commonwealth of the importance of stormwater management to keep our waters clean from harmful pollutants," said State Representative James Kelcourse (R-Amesbury). MassDEP is responsible for ensuring clean air and water, safe management and recycling of solid and hazardous wastes, timely cleanup of hazardous waste sites and spills and the preservation of wetlands and coastal resources.



So that's what happened!

(Courtesy photo)



Middlesex District Attorney's Office Gives Back

Middlesex District Attorney Marian Ryan and staff recently partnered with Birthday Wishes to wrap birthday gifts for children experiencing homelessness. Volunteers from the Middlesex District Attorney's office wrapped donated gifts for girls and boys between the ages of 1 and 17 years old that will be delivered to kids across Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New Hampshire in celebration of their birthdays. The activity is part of the Middlesex District Attorney's Office Gives Back program that connects staff volunteers with programs across the county that help the community.

(Courtesy photo)

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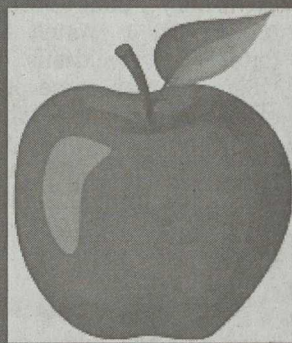
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COMMUNITY HEALTH & WELLNESS FAIR

Saturday, March 14

9 am - 12 pm

@ Wilmington Knights of Columbus

112 Middlesex Avenue

Local businesses and organizations specializing in mental, physical, and financial wellness including:

- healthy lifestyle choices
- stress management
- physical therapy
- financial/retirement health

will be on hand to answer questions and showcase their products and services.

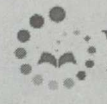
Health screenings | Demonstrations | Giveaways | Prize Drawings

Free to the public - all are welcome!

Presented by:

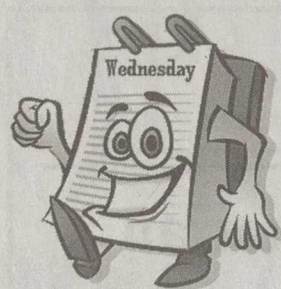


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Community Calendar

send your item to:

Calendar@YourTownCrier.com

Wilmington Calendar:

Sons of Italy Breakfast with the Easter Bunny

Knights of Columbus Music Bingo

Friday, March 6 from 7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Knights of Columbus Members' Lounge

Music bingo will be held in the downstairs lounge in the Knights of Columbus hall. Participants must be 21 or older.

Music Bingo Bash

Friday, March 6 at 7 p.m. Shriners Auditorium, 99 Fordham Road

Listen to your favorite songs and cover your bingo card. Put on by the Wilmington Tewksbury Chamber of Commerce; for more information, call 978-657-7211.

Boy Scout Mini Golf Fundraiser

Saturday, March 7 from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Villanova Hall, 126 Middlesex Ave.

Support Wilmington's Boy Scout Troop 126 and play some mini golf. 18 holes of mini golf is \$5 per person. The 19th hole cafe will also be available for food and drinks.

Knights of Columbus Karaoke

Friday, March 20 from 8 p.m. - 11 p.m.

Knights of Columbus Members' Lounge

The Knights of Columbus are holding a karaoke night in their hall's downstairs lounge. Participants must be 21 or older.

Into Action Recovery

Thursday, March 26 at 7 p.m.

TJ Callahan's, 1475 Main St. in Tewksbury

There will be a drawing for a New England Patriots VIP Package, raffles, and a free buffet. For more information, email intoactionrecovery2015@gmail.com.

Trivia Night

Friday, April 3 at 7 p.m.

Knights of Columbus main banquet hall, 112 Middlesex Ave.

The Knights of Columbus and Wilmington Band Parents are hosting a trivia night. Doors open at 7 p.m. and trivia starts at 7:30 p.m. Bring your own food to share with your teammates. A cash bar will be available and there will be raffle baskets. Entrance is \$20 per person and tables will be 10 people per table. Sponsorship opportunities are available. Please make checks payable to The Wilmington Band Parents Association. For more information, please contact Steve Sica at 978-771-0810 or Jeff Bradford at 978-658-1723.

New England Vintage Tackle Show

Saturday, April 4 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Tewksbury Holiday Inn The show will feature freshwater and saltwater vintage gear, lures, rods, reels, decoys, and more. The event is put on by the National Fishing Lures Collector's Club.

Sons of Italy Breakfast with the Easter Bunny

Sunday, April 5 Knights of Columbus Hall The Wilmington Sons of Italy presents the 15th Annual Breakfast with the

Easter Bunny on Sunday, April 5. Two seatings are available: 8:30 - 10 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. The donation is \$8 per person; children 3 and under eat free. The menu includes scrambled eggs, waffles, hash brown patties, bacon, sausage, cereal, juice, milk, and coffee. All proceeds are to benefit Wilmington Sons of Italy charities. For tickets, contact Michele at 978-658-8284. Please note, tickets will not be sold at the door.

Knights of Columbus Music Bingo

Friday, April 17 from 7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Knights of Columbus Members' Lounge

Music bingo will be held in the downstairs lounge in the Knights of Columbus hall. Participants must be 21 or older.

Knights of Columbus Cribbage

Mondays from 7 - 9 p.m. through mid-April

Knights of Columbus Members' Lounge

Come to cribbage at the downstairs lounge in the Knights of Columbus hall. For more details, call Bob at 978-851-4985. Participants must be 21 or older.

Celebrate Recovery

Tuesdays from 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Lowell Assembly of God, 995 Andover St. in Tewksbury

Celebrate Recovery offers a free, faith-based addiction recovery program. For more information, call 978-851-9800.

Tewksbury Public Library.

TYSL/Dewing Dewgooders Soccer Equipment Swap

Ongoing until April 1 Tewksbury Public Library, 300 Chandler St.

Are you tired of having to buy new cleats and equipment every season because of how quickly your children grow? TYSL and the the Dewing Dewgooders (Dewing PAC Community Service Committee) are now collecting any useable cleats, shin guards, uniforms, and other equipment for redistribution. The donation box is located in the lobby of the Tewksbury Public Library until April 1. Watch for dates and locations of where you can come pick out, free of charge, what your athlete may need for the 2020 seasons. For any questions, please contact Andrea Rego at arangeland@hotmail.com.

New England Vintage Tackle Show

Saturday, April 4 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Tewksbury Holiday Inn The show will feature freshwater and saltwater vintage gear, lures, rods, reels, decoys, and more. The event is put on by the National Fishing Lures Collector's Club.

Tewksbury

Father/Daughter Dance Sunday, April 5, 2020 Tewksbury Country Club Grade: Time

Alateen

The first and third Thursday of each month

St Williams Church (middle brick building), 1351 Main St. in Tewksbury

When there is evidence of alcoholism or drug use in a family, you can see the effects on the other family members, especially young people. Alateen meetings provide mutual support for young people affected by someone else's drinking and drug use. Come speak with teens who know exactly how you feel. The meetings are confidential and a safe place to share experiences, strength, and hope with each other; discuss difficulties; learn effective ways to cope with problems; encourage one another; help each other understand the principles of the Al-Anon program; and learn how to use the Twelve Steps and Alateen's Twelve Traditions. For more information on the Tewksbury meeting, call Maria Ruggiero at 978-851-7373 X352. For more information on Alanon/Alateen, call 508-366-0556 or visit alanon.alateen.org/for-alateen.

Safety seat installation

Every Wednesday from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Public Safety Building, 1 Adelaide Street

The Wilmington Police Department offers safety seat installs at the Wilmington Public Safety Building (1 Adelaide St.) every Wednesday, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. No appointment is necessary but calling ahead at 978-658-5071 is recommended.

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

			2					
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Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

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NOIUTOS

ACROSS

1 Skirt slit

5 Don Diego masked

10 Accumulate (2 wds.)

12 Make bubbly

13 Spine-crested lizard

14 Dryer companion

15 Scotland Yard div.

16 Moonshot mission

18 Frequent "SNL" host

20 Fabric meas.

21 Monster's loch

25 Trevi Fountain coins, once

27 Rug texture

28 Honda rival

31 Homegrown

34 Andes ruminants

35 Stayed

36 Ms. Jillian

37 Elephant tooth

38 Suitcases

40 Zig's opposite

41 Yen

45 Attire

48 "Exodus" hero

49 Come by

52 Drew, in a way

54 Raspy-sounding

55 Union man

56 Trapshooting

57 Tedious undertaking

DOWN

1 Watch

2 Slip past

3 Teachers' org.

4 Salad fish

5 Strong fervor

6 Director

7 Well-known

8 Hwy.

9 Above, to a bard

10 Typewriter type

11 Scroll material

12 Hole-making tools

17 Poetic tribute

19 Chowder

22 Sooner city

23 Keep

24 Stepped on the gas

26 Keogh relative

28 Meatloaf serving

29 Longest arm bone

30 Loud sound

31 Mischievous

32 Situp targets

33 Polynesian carving

37 Do lacework

39 Make jump

40 Region

42 Pushpins

43 Fishing spot

44 Go to earth

46 Grocery shopper's reference

47 Latin 101 word

49 Signs of distress

50 — choy

51 — kwon do

53 Literary compilation

Tewksbury Calendar:

Father/daughter dance on Sunday, April 5

Music Bingo Bash

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Listen to your favorite songs and cover your bingo card. Put on by the Wilmington Tewksbury Chamber of Commerce; for more information, call 978-657-7211.

Redmen March Madness Competition

Sunday, March 8 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Tewksbury Memorial High School

The competition is hosted by the TMHS Boys and Girls Basketball Teams. Events for grades 3 and 4 include dribbling, free throws, and around the world shooting; for grades 5 and 6 the competition includes dribbling, free throws, and hot shots; and for grades 7 and 8, dribbling, free throws and three pointers. All grade levels will end with knockout that will be offered to everyone free of charge. Winners will be recognized. Come for music, a DJ, and fun. To register, send an email to TMHSMarchMadness@gmail.com by March 1. Payments can be done with Venmo, Apple Pay, or check.

Into Action Recovery

Thursday, March 26 at 7 p.m.

TJ Callahan's, 1475 Main St.

There will be a drawing for a New England Patriots VIP Package, raffles,

and a free buffet. For more information, email intoactionrecovery2015@gmail.com.

MVP Public Listening Sessions

Thursday, March 26 from 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Tewksbury Public Library

You are invited to participate in an interactive Public Listening Sessions to review the recent January workshop findings for the Town's Hazard Mitigation Plan and Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program. This is a great opportunity for you to provide direct feedback on the Town's Hazard Mitigation Plan and to discuss solutions to current hazards and future climate change impacts. For more information, contact Town Planner Anna McGinty at 978-640-4370 Ext. 236. To learn more about the MVP Program, please visit mass.gov/municipal-vulnerability-preparedness-mvp-program.

Indoor Mini Golf

Tewksbury Public Library

Mini golf will be held Friday, March 27, Saturday, March 28, and Sunday, March 29. Friday night will be from 6 - 8 p.m. and is an adult only night with drinks and a hole in one contest. Saturday night will be from 6 - 9 p.m., and Sunday is all day from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Come for the raffles, stay for the mini golf! This event is sponsored by the Friends of the

4th annual Spring Festival at Shawsheen Tech

BILLERICA — The 4th annual Spring Festival at Shawsheen Tech will be held on Saturday, March 14, 2020 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Join for food, fun, and festivities inside the school gymnasium. The Spring Festival features Fantastic vendors from the famous "Fall Fair"

- New talented vendors
- Delicious pizza from

EJ's Pizza in Wilmington

- Arts & Crafts from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Cookie decorating
- Face painting
- New Easter Egg raffle

FREE ADMISSION, but they will gladly accept donations for ALS research at the door. Contact Angela Cairra at acairra@shawstech.org

For more information, contact Town Planner Anna McGinty at 978-640-4370 Ext. 236. To learn more about the MVP Program, please visit mass.gov/municipal-vulnerability-preparedness-mvp-program.

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St Williams Church (middle brick building), 1351 Main St.

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Lifestyle

Irish eyes are smiling... when it's National Celery Month

By **HEATHER BURNS**
News Correspondent

March is known to be the month that we celebrate all that is green. A time to notice that special green leaf plant that almost seems to have magical properties.

I speak not of the luck of the shamrock, but of the nutritional value and versatility of the celery stalk, because the month of March is also National Celery Month.

Celery is often thought of as more of a garnish than a food, but celery has reached Superfood status with an impressive nutrition and flavor profile.

The celery plant is a member of the Apiaceae plant family, and can be traced back to Mediterranean and North African areas, and is often mentioned in Mediterranean folklore and history.

Celery even holds a little royal provenance in its history, as a rumidmetary variety of celery is believed to have been found in King Tut's Tomb.

Celery is now cultivated globally and is an important part of cuisine menus found around the world.

According to the USDA, celery is made up of mostly water, fiber and some carbohydrates, but is also rich in many valuable vitamins and nutrients.

Celery's nutritional profile includes calcium, magnesium, iron, zinc, potassium, as well as vitamins A, K, C, E, and B.

Celery also contains over a dozen forms of antioxidants. Antioxidants aid in the repair of damage caused by inflammation. This can help in the treat-

ment of a large range of inflammatory diseases such as Arthritis, Allergic Asthma, IBS, UTI and joint pain.

According to the Journal of Agriculture and Food Chemistry, the fiber found in celery can aid in reducing LDL (bad cholesterol), and lower stress hormones. This, along with celery's potassium properties, can aid in regulating high blood pressure levels, making it a smart choice for a heart healthy diet.

Perhaps Irish eyes are smiling because celery is rich in so many essential vitamins, including vitamin C, which not only can boost your immune system, but also promotes healthy eyesight.

Super crunchy and hydrating, celery is naturally low in calories. One large stalk of celery contains only seven calories and two ounces of water.

Research shows that chewing can reduce hunger, thus chomping on crunchy celery a great snack choice for those trying to manage their weight.

Celery is also low on the Glycemic Index because it has a slow, steady effect on your blood sugar, making it a good choice for a diabetic diet as well.

Celery can add color, texture and flavor to everything from stir fry to pot pie, making it an easy to add to your daily diet.

Try adding celery to your favorite soup or stew recipes, or try making Celery Soup. It is simple to make, and satisfying to eat.

Celery is a great addition to your favorite sandwich salads such as chicken, tuna, egg, or seafood for extra crunch and flavor.

Instead of chips, try celery sticks in your favorite dips. Celery pairs well with hummus, salsa, onion dip, ranch dressing, queso, cheese dips, or even peanut butter, making for a more healthy snack time.

With St. Patrick's Day just around the corner, try adding celery to your traditional boiled dinner for a little extra zest of flavor and nutrition.

Celery is readily available at your local market. Choose stalks that are firm and bright green with fresh, crisp leaves, and store it in a zip lock bag or air tight container in the refrigerator for up to seven days.

If you like to stockpile often used items in the freezer, be warned, raw celery does not freeze well, as it will lose its crisp texture.

However, if you plan to cook with your celery, freezing will not be a problem when done correctly.

To freeze celery correctly, wash celery well and blanch the celery before freezing.

To blanch celery, place cut celery into boiling water for 3 minutes. Then immediately plunge celery into ice water.

Towel dry and place it into freezer bags.

Frozen celery will keep for months, allowing you easy access to add nutritious celery to your favorite recipes.

This March, march down to the produce department and stock up on stalks of celery in honor of National Celery Month. The luck of the Irish may be in the air this month, but the health benefits of adding celery to your diet may be all the luck you will need.

Check out snowshoeing as alternative to skiing

By **PAIGE IMPINK**
News Correspondent
paige@yourtowncrier.com

Even though there is no snow on the ground here in the Merrimack Valley, areas up north continue to offer winter wonderland conditions. While skiing is exciting and athletic, there are other ways to enjoy the snow without zooming downhill.

Snowshoeing is an increasingly popular and accessible way to experience the outdoors and get some exercise at the same time. On a recent visit to a ski mountain, family members skied while others snowshoed. It was a way to explore the mountain in a different way.

On this particular trail, it was necessary to share with other skiers, mostly cross country or those seeking to be off trail. However, following the markers, the snowshoeing let us get right into the woods, up along rocks and frozen waterfalls, and amongst the birds and other creatures who are not out on the open slopes.

Snowshoeing has been traced back to central Asia, where wooden

blocks were strapped to human feet in an attempt to mimic animals with wide paws who could navigate deep snow. Snowshoes have been found in Scandinavia and North America, used by indigenous peoples for hunting.

According to some sources, early North American tribes introduced snowshoes to European explorers. Canadians are credited with popularizing snowshoes in the early 1900s, though they were developed for military use, adaptations were made for recreation.

Snowshoeing for exercise has increased in popularity since the 1990s, with ski areas opening up trails on their mountains. Snowshoeing can be enjoyed by people of all ages and is workable on most all types of trails. Keep in mind that some trails go uphill, requiring a bit of duck-walking on your ascent, but the straightaways really just mirror a slightly wider but natural walking stride.

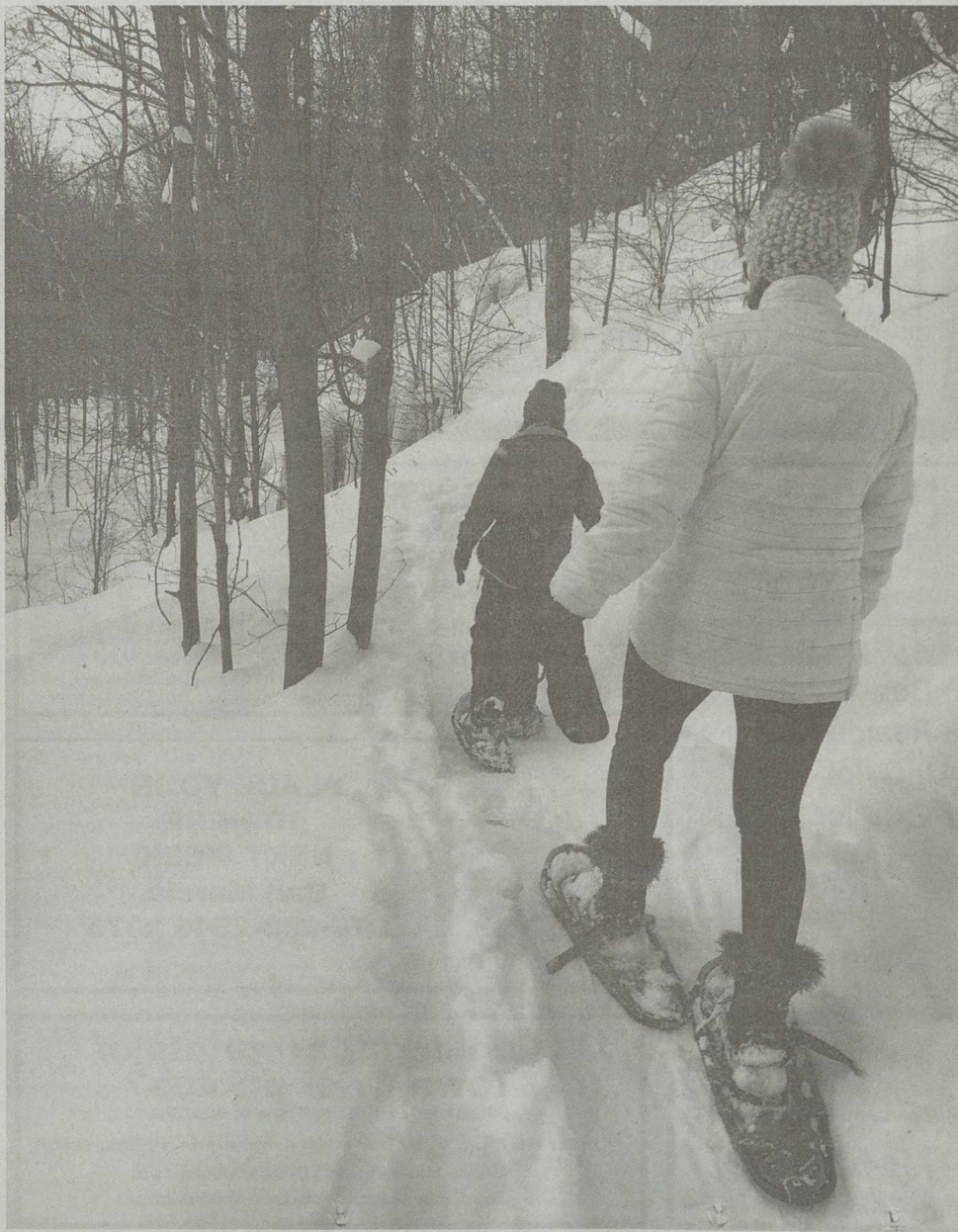
Some people use poles for balance, but they are not necessary. It is important to pack water, a head-

lamp, first aid and a snack in your pack. Be sure to dress in layers because you will warm up quickly, but then when you stop, your body will cool down just as fast. You'll want good boots or hikers and gators to keep the snow out of your ankles.

A map is critical as trails for snowshoeing are not always the same as the hiking or cross country trails and can look different in the snow. Snowshoe racing has become an increasingly popular sport, and recreational snowshoes have undergone some transformations, with lighter materials, shorter footbeds and less complicated bindings. Snowshoes have crampons, an essential metal "claw" that helps grip hard snow or ice for traction.

While the weather seems to be headed toward spring here in the Merrimack Valley, conditions are still prime for snowshoeing up north in New Hampshire, Maine and Vermont for yet another month or so.

Give snowshoeing a try and see if it's for you!



► Get into the woods and give snowshoeing a try!

(Paige Impink photo)



Tewksbury Police Log

Male party arrested for shoplifting at Dandi Lyons

Monday, February 24

2 a.m. - A 911 caller at Kevin Street reported she heard knocking on her door. Police sent. They checked the area, but didn't find anything.

10 p.m. - The female caller placed her \$120 nurse shoes outside her door at Ames Hill Drive and believed her neighbor took her shoes. Police sent and filed a report.

Tuesday, February 25

5:59 a.m. - Police out at Motel 6 attempting to serve a warrant. Manuel Colon, 48, of 175 Willard St. at Lowell, was arrested and charged with a warrant for operating motor vehicle with suspended license.

10:24 a.m. - An attempted robbery was reported to a residence on Cinnamon Circle. An officer filed a report. A detective was requested for tracking.

3:18 p.m. - A possible verbal altercation occurred between a male and female at Victor Drive

and Patrick Road. Male party had left the scene in a vehicle. Female parties were walking towards the Wynn Middle School. Police spoke to the female parties and they reported no incident. Female parties were talking to their father and had a disagreement.

3:23 p.m. - At Main Street and Pleasant Street, the operator in the listed vehicle was reportedly using marijuana while driving southbound on Main Street. Police sent. They found the vehicle in the driveway. No answer at the door though.

Wednesday, February 26

1:51 a.m. - Police out at Revere Tanning Salon with a motor vehicle parked in the parking lot. Party checked out; it was an Uber driver dropping someone off.

9:01 a.m. - Walk-in party reported a past assault at Breakaway Ice. Police spoke with the party and filed a report.

3:52 p.m. - Someone used the male party's identity

to open several account in his name at Main Street. Police at the station to speak with party. Officer filed a report.

5:32 p.m. - The caller heard six loud bangs at Seneca Road. Police sent. Officer spoke to a party and he believed they were fireworks.

Thursday, February 27

5:59 a.m. - Police out at Pike Street attempting to serve a warrant. Thomas Ferraro, 44 of 57 Pike St. in Tewksbury, was arrested and charged with a warrant for possession class B drugs, a warrant for operating motor vehicle with revoked license, and two warrants for operating motor vehicle with suspended license.

2:08 p.m. - The employee from Speedway Gas Station requested police assistance with three females who were reportedly shoplifting and left heading back to the hotel. Police sent. Officer filed a report.

3:13 p.m. - A 911 caller reported an erratic drive-

way in a blue Chevy Silverado at East Street and Shawsheen Street. The driver pulled into Kerry Plaza. Police sent. Areas were checked, but reported gone on arrival.

7:40 p.m. - Manager from Market Basket North reported a male shoplifter left in a white Dodge pick up truck with four doors and the license plate hanging off. Police sent. Officer filed a report.

8:35 p.m. - The caller's neighbor's door had been wide open since approximately 2:30 at Ferncroft Road. Caller was not sure if they were home. Police sent. Officer spoke with the homeowner who stayed and all appears to be intact.

9:16 p.m. - Police stopped a motor vehicle registered with a possible warrant at Motel 6. Merceredi Pen, 27, of 156 Shawsheen St. in Tewksbury, was arrested and charged with a warrant for license suspended.

Friday, February 28

2:42 a.m. - Emily Alva-

rado-Aguirre, 27, of 400 Gotham St. in Lowell, was arrested and charged with OUI liquor.

11:45 a.m. - Police at MacDonald Real Estate with suspicious male party. Police sent. They filed a report.

7:33 p.m. - The caller's son broke into his store while it was closed at Dandi Lyons's. Police sent. Tyler James Lyons, 25, of 12 Highvale Lane in Andover, was arrested and charged with larceny over \$1,200 and breaking and entering nighttime for felony.

Saturday, February 29

6:41 a.m. - Police out at Main Street and Route 495 North. Paul Pilato, 46, of 51 Franklin St. in Lowell, was arrested and charged with operating motor vehicle with license suspended and fail to signal.

3:33 p.m. - Caller reported that his vehicle was egged while it was parked at Pike Street. He requested it be logged.

7:40 p.m. - Officer off at Walmart for a report of an unlicensed driver. Male was near the donation bin. Officer reported vehicle would be parked at Walmart until a licensed operator can drive it home.

11:01 p.m. - Police stopped a motor vehicle at Chandler Street for a stop sign violation. Ira Proctor, 47, of 9 Woodland Road in Southborough, was arrested and charged with operating motor vehicle with license suspended, operating motor vehicle with license suspended for OUI, and fail to stop or yield.

Sunday, March 1

4 a.m. - Police out on a motor vehicle stop at Motel 6. Krystle Stephan, 32, of 61 Charles St. in Haverhill, was arrested and charged with operating motor vehicle with license suspended.

6:10 a.m. - Police out at Motel 6 attempting to serve a warrant. Thomas Ponzo, 50, of 193 Middlesex St. in Lowell, was arrested and charged with Haverhill District Court straight warrant.

8:39 a.m. - Caller reported construction work being done at Riverview Avenue. Police sent. The property owner was just there cleaning up but he would stop for the day.

9:22 p.m. - A 911 caller reported an erratic driver was all over the road at East Street. Police had the vehicle stopped infant of the station. Operating checked out.



Wilmington Police Log

Multiple accidents occurred south of Concord St overpass

Friday, February 21:

1:04 a.m.: Police assisted with a report of an unknown alarm that had been sounding for half an hour on Williams Avenue. The alarm was found to be coming from a smoke detector that was thrown away. The device's batteries were removed and the alarm stopped.

7:22 a.m.: The Fire Department extinguished a patch of smoldering mulch on Horseshoe Lane.

1:53 p.m.: A catalytic convertor was reported stolen from a Ford E-350 parked on West Street.

Saturday, February 22:

9:58 a.m.: Police confirmed a reported water break on Grace Drive and notified the Water Department.

11:49 a.m.: Multiple accidents occurred south of the Concord Street overpass on I-93. One driver reported a vehicle going at a rate of 100 miles per hour. Vehicles involved included a Ford F-150, a Toyota Camry, a Lincoln MKX, and a Honda Odyssey. Some of the vehicles deployed their airbags and the guardrail was damaged. An ambulance was called in to evaluate several children who were

in a crash and narcan was administered to the unconscious driver of the vehicle that had been speeding. Another driver had to be taken to the hospital by a North Reading ambulance.

2:18 p.m.: A Chevrolet Silverado hit a Ford Windstar in the Speedway parking lot on Main Street.

3:43 p.m.: A Cadillac XTS and a Toyota Land Cruiser were in a collision at the intersection of Middlesex Avenue and High Street. No one was injured.

Sunday, February 23:

1:40 a.m.: Burlington police assisted with translation to Spanish during the arrest of Deny Bedoya-Finlay, 28, of 43 Royal Crest Dr. in North Andover. He was charged with operating under the influence of alcohol, marked lanes violation, unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, and furnishing a false ID. Bail was set at \$240.

10:27 a.m.: A Jeep Liberty was egged while parked on Drury Lane overnight. The vehicle was egged on the passenger side, the side that faced the street.

12:37 p.m.: A motor vehi-

cle collision occurred on West Street involving a Ford Ranger and a Mercedes C300. The Mercedes was towed by AAA.

Monday, February 24:

7:36 a.m.: The operator of a Mercedes C300 was taken to Lahey for medical attention after a collision with a Hyundai Elantra at the intersection of Main Street and Cross Street. The vehicle deployed its airbags during the collision.

1:48 p.m.: Police notified Benevento that their truck spilled gravel on Ramp 40.

Tuesday, February 25:

11:16 a.m.: Police removed a deceased opossum from a Lake Street property at the request of the homeowner.

5:45 p.m.: A GMC Sierra was hit twice by a Toyota Venza by Rizzo's Pizza on Church Street, doing minor damage to the driver's side of the vehicle. The Venza left the scene after the incident. The owner of the Sierra provided a description of the vehicle and a license plate; the license plate was off by a character, but police found the vehicle and facilitated an exchange of information.

Wednesday, February 26:

6:48 a.m.: Police confirmed a reported water break on Harold Avenue and notified the Department of Public Works.

7:40 a.m.: A minor motor vehicle collision occurred at Sonny's Mobile on the

Run involving a Mercury Grand Marquis and a Toyota Tacoma.

4:09 p.m.: A Kia Optima rear ended a Chevrolet Silverado at the intersection of Main Street and Williams Street. No one was injured and damage to the vehicles was minor.

Thursday, February 27:

6:06 a.m.: A motor vehicle collision occurred on Lowell Street involving a Buick LeSabre and a Ford Freestyle. No one was injured.

6:34 a.m.: A Toyota RAV4 and a Jeep Grand Cherokee were in a collision by Mr. Ticket at the intersection of West Street and Lowell Street. No one was injured in the collision.

7:41 a.m.: A motor vehicle collision occurred by Subway on Main Street involving a Toyota Corolla and a GMC Sierra. No one was injured.

7:57 a.m.: A motor vehicle collision occurred on Butters Row involving a Ford Explorer and a Toyota Yaris. No injuries were reported.

12:44 p.m.: Animal Control freed a gopher from a chain link fence on Main Street. With permission from U-Haul, the property owner, Animal Control cut the fence to get the animal free.

3:10 p.m.: The Fire Department responded to injuries from a collision by Exit 40 involving a Chevrolet Express and a Toyota Corolla.

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Baker-Polito Administration announces legislation to promote increased participation of women-owned and minority-owned businesses in state construction projects

BOSTON — The Baker-Polito Administration today filed legislation, An Act to Expand Opportunities for Minority and Women Business Enterprises in Public Construction Projects, and announced a series of administrative changes to promote greater participation of minority- and women-owned businesses in public construction, including small businesses. These changes will help optimize and improve the Affirmative Marketing Program (AMP), which sets goals for participation by minority-owned businesses (MBEs) and women-owned businesses (WBEs) in design and construction for the state and municipalities with vertical construction.

"We are committed to increasing opportunities for minorities and women across Massachusetts and strengthening the relationship between the Commonwealth and its diverse business community," said Governor Charlie Baker. "These improvements to the Commonwealth's Affirmative Marketing Program represent the most significant construction reform since the program began and will lead to a more inclusive economy."

"Our administration is pleased to continue empowering and supporting women-owned businesses and minority-owned businesses throughout Massachusetts," said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito. "By increasing the goals for participation by women and minority businesses in state contracts, reducing burdens and costs on smaller contractors and expanding access to more public projects, we can promote increased participation and greater inclusion for all businesses."

This legislation will help afford new opportunities to MBEs and WBEs in two ways. First, it proposes an increase in the dollar thresholds over which public entities are required to subcontract and bid out specific components of a project. Currently, bids for most subcontracted work over \$25,000 are subject to a filed sub-bid requirement, a process that requires interested subcontractors to comply with certification, bonding and other requirements, and to submit bids to the awarding authority. These requirements can discourage smaller MBEs and WBEs from participating in public building projects due to the administrative burden and cost. This proposal would increase the thresh-

olds governing when filed sub-bids would be required, to instead only require them when the subcontracted work costs more than \$50,000 and the overall project cost exceeds \$1 million.

Second, the legislation expands opportunities for MBEs and WBEs on Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) and other public projects in areas where they have not been readily available. Currently, over 50 percent of public building work is subcontracted out by means of filed sub-bids, yet these sub-bids are not subject to MBE and WBE participation goals. The legislation will allow DCAMM to set MBE and WBE participation goals for this subcontracted work on projects over \$5 million.

The administrative changes involve DCAMM splitting the AMP goals for the percentage of spending distributed to MBEs and WBEs so that there are distinct participation requirements for both groups and ensures participation by both MBE and WBE firms. Additionally, the combined annual participation goals will be increased from 10.4 percent to 13 percent in the construction phase, and from 17.9 percent to 21.6 percent in the design phase. These changes will also allow for the establishment of project-specific AMP goals. This enables participation goals for an individual project to be specifically tailored to it for procurement, and ensures that goals accurately reflect the availability of contractors and other factors.

"These meaningful reforms and improvements will increase access for minorities and women in public construction projects," said Administration and Finance Secretary Michael J. Heffernan. "We are pleased to be updating and improving the AMP program to further promote economic growth and equality for all businesses, and we look forward to working closely with our partners in the Legislature to pass this bill into law."

"This improved AMP combined with our proposed legislative changes will make it easier for MBE, WBE and all size contractor firms to do business with DCAMM," said DCAMM Commissioner Carol Gladstone. "We are making a concerted effort to help MBE and WBE firms have access to

DCAMM procurements with our aggressive recruiting of MBE and WBE contractors, our certification trainings, and our Job Ordered Contracting program."

"The Affirmative Marketing Program and legislation is a great step forward that has come from the Governor in collaboration with the Massachusetts Black and Latino Legislative Caucus," said Representative Russell Holmes. "The participation goals and increase in subcontractor thresholds will create many new opportunities for women and people of color."

The Affirmative Marketing Program, with oversight by DCAMM and the Supplier Diversity Office, manages goals for participation by MBEs and WBEs in design and construction for the state and municipalities regarding vertical construction. Through the AMP, the Commonwealth promotes opportunities for diverse businesses in public construction and ensures goals are met by conducting outreach to minority and women owned businesses and carrying out education and training.

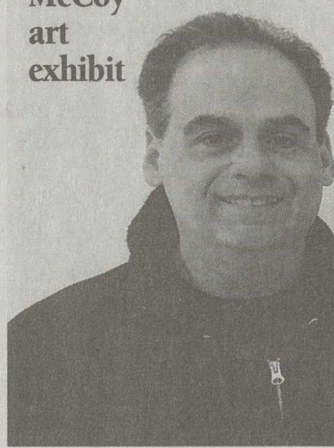


Baking for charity

Wilmington residents (from left) Matt Cohen, Leah Nelsen, Hayden Kane, Tim Sun, and Shaun Bradford baked 1,800 cookies for the Cookie Brigade, an organization that gives out free cookies and takes money for child's play charity. (www.cookiebrigade.org) A total of 16 hours were spent in the kitchen of the Methodist Church baking and sealing cookies. Cookies were distributed at PAX East in Boston along with an additional 27,000 cookies baked across the country, where the cookie brigade raised over \$32,197 for charity. (Courtesy photo)

Danielle McCoy art exhibit

Artist Danielle McCoy hosts a pencil drawing exhibit on Sunday, March 7, 2020 from 2 - 4 p.m. at the Wilmington Memorial Library. Proud husband, Mike McCoy shown.



(Courtesy photo)

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LEGAL NOTICE



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02141
(617) 768-5800

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Docket No. MI20P0964EA

Estate of:
John J. Chase
Also known as:
John J. Chase, Sr.
Date of Death: 01/08/2020

To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by John J. Chase, Jr. of Billerica MA and Mary Ellen Chase of North Billerica MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: John J. Chase, Jr. of Billerica MA and Mary Ellen Chase of North Billerica MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of

said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/23/2020.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Maureen H. Monks, First Justice of this Court. Date: February 24, 2020

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
200263 3/4/20

LEGAL NOTICE



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02141
(617) 768-5800

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Docket No. MI20P0783EA

Estate of:
Wieslaw M. Micherda
Date of Death: 11/19/2019

To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Eva Szczesny of Saugus MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Eva Szczesny of Saugus MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration.

200266 3/4/20

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/25/2020.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Maureen H. Monks, First Justice of this Court. Date: February 26, 2020

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
200266 3/4/20

LEGAL NOTICE



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02141
(617) 768-5800

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Docket No. MI20P1028EA

Estate of:
Daniel Roderick Delorey, Jr.
Also known as:
Daniel R. Delorey, Jr.
Date of Death: 04/11/2019

To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Patricia J. Flodin of Alton NH requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Patricia J. Flodin of Alton NH be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the

bond in an unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/25/2020.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Maureen H. Monks, First Justice of this Court. Date: February 26, 2020

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
200281 3/4/20

LEGAL NOTICE



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
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(617) 768-5800

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Docket No. MI20P0840EA

Estate of:
Arden Gorfinkle
Date of Death: 07/03/2019

To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Kevin F. Mulvey of Reading MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Kevin F. Mulvey of Reading MA be appointed as the Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/13/2020.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Maureen H. Monks, First Justice of this Court. Date: February 14, 2020

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
200248 3/4/20

LEGAL NOTICE



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston MA 02114

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION TO EXPAND THE POWERS OF A GUARDIAN

Docket No. SU18P0560GD

In the Interests of:
Joel David Demass
of Tewksbury, MA
RESPONDENT
Incapacitated Person/
Protected Person

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Tewksbury Hospital of Tewksbury, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court: Expand the powers of a Guardian of the Respondent.

The petition asks the court to make a determination that the powers of the Guardian and/or Conservator should be expand-

ed, modified, or limited since the time of the appointment. The original petition is on file with the court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 03/19/2020. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: February 20, 2020

Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate
200259 3/4/20

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF WILMINGTON PLANNING BOARD
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 40A, Section 5, the Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Auditorium at 121 Glen Road, Wilmington, MA on the Zoning Articles proposed for the Warrant at the Annual Town Meeting to be held May 2, 2020. The Public Hearing will be conducted jointly with the Finance Committee.

The following summarizes the Zoning Articles that will be considered at the Public Hearing:

To see if the Town of Wilmington will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw and associated Zoning Map of the Town of Wilmington by voting to rezone from Residential 60 (R60) to Residential 20 (R20) the parcels of land shown on Assessor's Map 83, Parcels: 11, 13, 14, 15, 15A, 16, 16A, 24, 24A, 25, 27, 28, 30, 30A, 31, 31A, 31B, 32, 33, 33A, 34, Map 84, Parcels: 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 10A, 11, 12, 13, 14, 14A, 14B, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 20A, 21, 21A, 21B, 22, 23A, 23B, 23C, 24, 28, 29, 30, 30A, 31, 31A, 32, 33, 35, 37, 42, 43, 46A, 47, 48, 49, 49B, 49C, 50, 51, 53, 54, 54A, 55, 55A, 56, 56A, 56B, 57A, 58, 59, 59A, 59B, 60, 61, 62, 63, 63A, 64A, 64B, 65A, 65B, 66, 67, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 76, 79, 86, 89, 91, 92, 93, 94, 97, 98, 99, 101, 103, 194-44, 303-30B, and Map R2, Parcels 1A, 2, or to take any other action related thereto.

To see if the Town of Wilmington will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw and associated Zoning Map of the Town of Wilmington by voting to rezone from General Business (GB) to Residential 20 (R20) the parcel of land known as 5 Shady Lane Drive shown on Assessor's Map 79 Parcel 11A, or to take any other action related thereto.

To see if the Town of Wilmington will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw and associated Zoning Map of the Town of Wilmington by voting to rezone from General Business (GB) and General Industrial (GI) to Neighborhood Mixed Use (NM) the parcels of land known as 100 and 102 West Street shown on Assessor's Map 71 Parcels 3 and 5, or to take any other action related thereto.

To see if the Town of Wilmington will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw and associated Zoning Map of the Town of Wilmington by voting to rezone from Residential 60 (R60) to Highway Industrial (HI) the parcels of land shown on Assessor's Map R1 Parcels 1, 1A and 2A, Assessor's Map R2 Parcel 19A, and Assessor's Map 103 Parcels 24 and 24A, or to take any other action related thereto.

Full text and maps of the Zoning Articles may be inspected at the Town Hall, Department of Planning & Conservation, Room 6, 121 Glen Road, Wilmington, MA, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Full text of Articles may also be found on the Town website.

Michael Sorrentino, Chair
Wilmington Planning Board

<http://masspublicnotices.org>

200243 2/26, 3/4/20

LEGAL NOTICE

MORTGAGEE'S NOTICE OF
SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain Mortgage given by Gerard A. Kulevich and Jessica M. Kulevich to First Franklin a division of Nat. City Bank of IN, dated July 21, 2005 and recorded with the Middlesex County (Northern District) Registry of Deeds at Book 19024, Page 262, subsequently assigned to First Franklin Financial Corporation by First Franklin, a Division of National City Bank of Indiana by assignment recorded in said Middlesex County (Northern District) Registry of Deeds at Book 20006, Page 90, subsequently assigned to National City Bank by First Franklin Financial Corporation by assignment recorded in said Middlesex County (Northern District) Registry of Deeds at Book 23152, Page 227 for breach of the conditions of said Mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing same will be sold at Public Auction at 12:00 PM on March 25, 2020 at 71 Middlesex Avenue, Wilmington, MA, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit:

A certain parcel of land together with the buildings thereon, situated in Wilmington, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, being shown as Lot B on a plan entitled "Plan of Property surveyed for Eldon H. Durkee, Wilmington, Mass." dated November 23, 1951, by AN. Eames, Surveyor, duly recorded with Middlesex North District Deeds, Plan Book 81, Plan 137 and bounded and described as follows: NORTH WESTERLY by Middlesex Avenue, Seventy-One and 78/100 (71.78) feet; NORTHERLY by the curve of said Middlesex Avenue and central Street, Thirty-One and 23/100 (31.23) feet; NORTHEASTERLY by Central Street, in two courses totaling Eighty-One and 28/100 (81.28) feet; SOUTHEASTERLY by land now or formerly of Walsh, One Hundred (100) feet; and, SOUTHWESTERLY by land now or formerly of Nolan, Ninety-Seven and 10/100 (97.10) feet. Containing 9075 square feet of

land more or less, For title see deed recorded prior hereto.

The premises are to be sold subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, encroachments, building and zoning laws, liens, unpaid taxes, tax titles, water bills, municipal liens and assessments, rights of tenants and parties in possession, and attorney's fees and costs.

TERMS OF SALE:
A deposit of FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00 CENTS (\$5,000.00) in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or money order will be required to be delivered at or before the time the bid is offered. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Foreclosure Sale Agreement immediately after the close of the bidding. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid within thirty (30) days from the sale date in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or other check satisfactory to Mortgagee's attorney. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid at the sale, to reject any and all bids, to continue the sale and to amend the terms of the sale by written or oral announcement made before or during the foreclosure sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication. **TIME WILL BE OF THE ESSENCE.**

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

PNC Bank, National Association, successor by merger to National City Bank

Present Holder of said Mortgage, By Its Attorneys, ORLANDS PC PO Box 540540 Waltham, MA 02454 Phone: (781) 790-7800 19-001899

200211 3/4,11,18/20

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

MIDDLESEX DIVISION

INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

Docket No. MI20P0317EA

Estate of:
Matthew J. Lombardi
Also Known As:
Matthew James Lombardi
Date of Death:
July 27, 2019

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Cara L. Lombardi of Tewksbury MA** a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Cara L. Lombardi of Tewksbury MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

200268 3/4/20

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF WILMINGTON
FINANCE COMMITTEE

PUBLIC HEARING

The Wilmington Finance Committee will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Auditorium on all the warrant articles for the Annual Town Meeting to be held on May 2, 2020. This meeting will be held jointly with the Planning Board.

John F. Doherty,
Chairman
Finance Committee
200279 3/4/20

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF WILMINGTON
BOARD OF APPEALS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing will be held at the Town Hall, 121 Glen Road on Wednesday, March 18, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. on the following applications:

Case 5-20
Jaret Balter
9 Cushing Drive
Map 21, Parcel 8E

To acquire a Special Permit \$6,677 for the Ground Water Protection District

Case 6-20
Wilmington Fourth of July Celebration, Inc
140-150 Middlesex Ave/
Swain School Lot
Map 52/66, Parcel 38/1

To acquire a Special Permit \$4.19 for a carnival to run from July 1, 2020 to July 5, 2020

Case 7-18
Bettering, LLC
362 Middlesex Avenue
Map 89, Parcel 6A

Request dated 1/31/2020 for accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act, Fair Housing Amendments Act and Rehabilitation Act to allow the construction of a forty-eight (48) bed rehabilitation facility over the site of the razed building, in accordance with modified plans available for viewing at the office of the Board of Appeals

200249 3/4,11/20

LEGAL NOTICE

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT

20 SM 000814

ORDER OF NOTICE

To:
David J. Curlew

and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq)

Kenlar, FSB

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Wilmington, numbered 298 Salem Street, given by Mary Kilroy to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for First Eastern Mortgage Corporation, dated May 24, 2005, and recorded in the Middlesex County (Northern District) Registry of Deeds in Book 18800, Page 63 and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before March 30, 2020 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of this Court on February 13, 2020.

Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
2014120045 3/4/20

200247

PUBLIC NOTICES

Every day throughout the United States newspapers publish thousands of public notices about events, conditions or actions that affect countless individuals, families, neighborhoods and businesses. Public notices cover many topics including guardianships, conservatorships and protective orders, probating wills, business matters, liquor licensing, public auctions and sales, estates, zoning, public meetings, bids to sell goods and services to the government, auctions to dispose of surplus government equipment, local government finances and state and local elections. The public notice is a fundamental component of our system of representative democracy, which depends upon the participation of educated, responsible citizens.

The Town Crier is the Newspaper of Record in
Wilmington and Tewksbury, Massachusetts.
Public notices are published weekly. To place your notice email it to:
legals@dailytimesinc.com
Deadline for Wednesday's paper is 10 AM on Monday

LEGAL NOTICE



TOWN OF TEWKSBURY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

**Ground Lease of
Municipal Real Estate for
Wireless Communications
Facilities**

Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30B, § 16, the Town of Tewksbury is soliciting sealed proposals for a ground lease for a portion of Town-owned land located at 90 Victor Drive, Tax Map 73, Lot 19, for the purpose of erecting, operating, and maintaining one wireless communications tower facility and related equipment for a term of up to twenty (20) years.

An RFP Package containing information relative to the submission requirements is available at the Town Manager's office located at 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876.

Hours are Monday thru Friday, from 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM, or by calling 978-640-4300.

Proposals must be submitted by April 6, 2020 at 11:00 AM.
200264 3/4,11/20

LEGAL NOTICE



TOWN OF TEWKSBURY

NEW FIRE STATION PROJECT

In accordance with MGL Chapter 149, the Town of Tewksbury, located at 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876, is seeking interested ELEVATOR subcontractors to be prequalified to bid on its New Tewksbury Fire Station project. The estimated cost of the project is \$13.4 million. This is a re-advertisement for ELEVATOR subcontractors only. If an ELEVATOR firm previously submitted a response to the initial advertisement to this RFO on January 15, 2020, no additional response is needed.

The Request for Qualifications document will be available after 10:00 AM on March 4, 2020 from tewksburyfire@vertexeng.com. All correspondence should be directed to the Owner's Project Manager, The Vertex Companies, Inc. at 400 Libbey Parkway, Weymouth, MA 02189. Responses to the RFQ are due March 18, 2020 at 1:00 PM.

E-mail is the preferred method of contact at tewksburyfire@vertexeng.com. Please see the RFQ document for additional information.
200270 3/4/20

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF
TIER RECLASSIFICATION

**DSM FOAM RELEASE
730 MAIN STREET,
WILMINGTON,
MASSACHUSETTS 01887
RELEASE TRACKING
NUMBER 3-33341**

A release of oil and/or hazardous materials has occurred at this location, which is a disposal site as defined by M.G.L. c. 21E, § 2 and the Massachusetts Contingency Plan, 310 CMR 40.0000. To evaluate the release, a Phase I Initial Site Investigation was performed pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0480. The site has been reclassified as **TIER I** pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0500. On February 26, 2020, **DSM Coating Resins Inc.** filed a **TIER I** Reclassification Submittal with the Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). To obtain more information on this disposal site, please contact **Mr. Stephen Campbell, DSM Coating Resins Inc., 730 Main Street, Wilmington, Massachusetts 01887, 508-380-2342**. The Tier Reclassification Submittal and the disposal site file can be viewed at MassDEP website using Release Tracking Number (RTN) **3-33341** at <https://eeanline.eea.state.ma.us/portal/#/search/wastesite> or at **MassDEP, Northeast Regional Office, 205B Lowell Street, Wilmington, Massachusetts 01887, 978-694-3200**. Additional public involvement opportunities are available under 310 CMR 40.1403(9) and 310 CMR 40.1404.
200262 3/4/20

LEGAL NOTICE

MORTGAGEE'S SALE
OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Robert G. Taylor to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, acting solely as a nominee for Countrywide Bank, N.A., dated January 9, 2007 and recorded in Middlesex County (Northern District) Registry of Deeds in Book 20885, Page 239 (the "Mortgage") of which mortgage NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing is the present holder by Assignment from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Countrywide Bank, N.A. to Green Tree Servicing LLC dated July 16, 2013 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 27498, Page 256, and Assignment from Ditech Financial LLC f/k/a Green Tree Servicing LLC to NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing dated December 21, 2019 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 33686, Page 43, for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, the mortgaged premises located at 266 Lowell Street, Wilmington, MA 01887 will be sold at a Public Auction at 1:00 PM on April 2, 2020, at the mortgaged premises, more particularly described below, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

That certain parcel of land in said Wilmington, with the buildings and improvements thereon now known and numbered as 266 Lowell Street, being shown as Lot A on a plan entitled "Plan of Lot in Wilmington surveyed for Charles H. Strout and Myron E. Wing, et al, August 30, 1951, H. Kingman Abbott, Reg. Surveyor, Reading", recorded at Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds, and bounded and described as follows:

SOUTHERLY: by Lowell Street as shown on said plan, 114.59 feet;
EASTERLY: by Lot B as shown on said plan, 218.43 feet;
NORTHERLY by other land, now or formerly of Charles H. Strout, Myron E. Wing and Raymond A. May, Jr., 96.10 feet; and
WESTERLY by land now or formerly of Marsh, as shown on said plan, 220 feet.

Containing, according to said plan, 22,979 square feet of land, more or less.

For title reference see deed recorded with Middlesex County, Northern District Registry of Deeds as Book 13243, Page 058.

For mortgagor's title see deed recorded with the Middlesex County (Northern District) Registry of Deeds in Book 13243, Page 58.

The premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and other municipal as-

sessments and liens, and subject to prior liens or other enforceable encumbrances of record entitled to precedence over this mortgage, and subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, reservations and conditions of record and subject to all tenancies and/or rights of parties in possession.

Terms of the Sale: Cash, cashier's or certified check in the sum of \$5,000.00 as a deposit must be shown at the time and place of the sale in order to qualify as a bidder (the mortgage holder and its designee(s) are exempt from this requirement); high bidder to sign written Memorandum of Sale upon acceptance of bid; balance of purchase price payable in cash or by certified check in thirty (30) days from the date of the sale at the offices of mortgagee's attorney, Korde & Associates, P.C., 900 Chelmsford Street, Suite 3102, Lowell, MA 01851 or such other time as may be designated by mortgagee. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing Korde & Associates, P.C. 900 Chelmsford Street Suite 3102 Lowell, MA 01851 (978) 256-1500 Taylor, Robert G., 15-024438 200280 3/4,11,18/20



Smoker Event at Shriners Auditorium

Yes, these guys are all from Wilmington. The group grows larger every year, led by cigar and whiskey aficionado John Maga (center). These guys love their yearly pilgrimage to the Shriners Auditorium Smoker Event. This massive gathering is all about the children and Shriners Hospitals locally and nationwide. Pictured here are George Vorillas, Chuck Hayes, Erik Iby, George Constanza, Mark Frongillo, Gus D'Alfonso, Dean Drinkwater, John Maga, Tony Larosa, Jack Holloway, Mark Holloway, Harry Middleton, Dario Valante, Bill Kroll, Bob May, Arty Sugue, Andrew Vellucci, John Saragosa, Nick D'Alfonso, Anthony Saragosa and Erik Hogan. If ya gotum smokum as they say!

(photo: BruceHilliard.com)

Wilmington, state back Joe Biden for Democratic nominee for president

ELECTION FROM PAGE 1

Committeeman for Wilmington with 917 votes to opponent Richard Baker's 602. For State Committee-woman there was Amanda Kesterson, who earned 783 votes, and Laura Sapienza-Grabski, with 582.

The democratic ballot had only one option each for State Committeeman and woman, Thomas Lawnsby and Carla Christensen.

Lawnsby received 3,366 and Christensen 3,427 votes.

Republican Town Committee nominees were Rob Fasulo, John Goggin, Kelly Richards, and Joseph Lavino, who scored 965, 668, 812, and 713 votes, respectively. The democratic ballot also held seven names for Town Committee: Erika Johnson, Julie Mulligan, Roberta Lasky, Robert Peterson Jr., Jay Donovan, Mary Osgood, Willi-

am Byrne, Susan Donovan, Cristina Warren, and Lorraine Casey.

All of these town committee candidates will move forward.

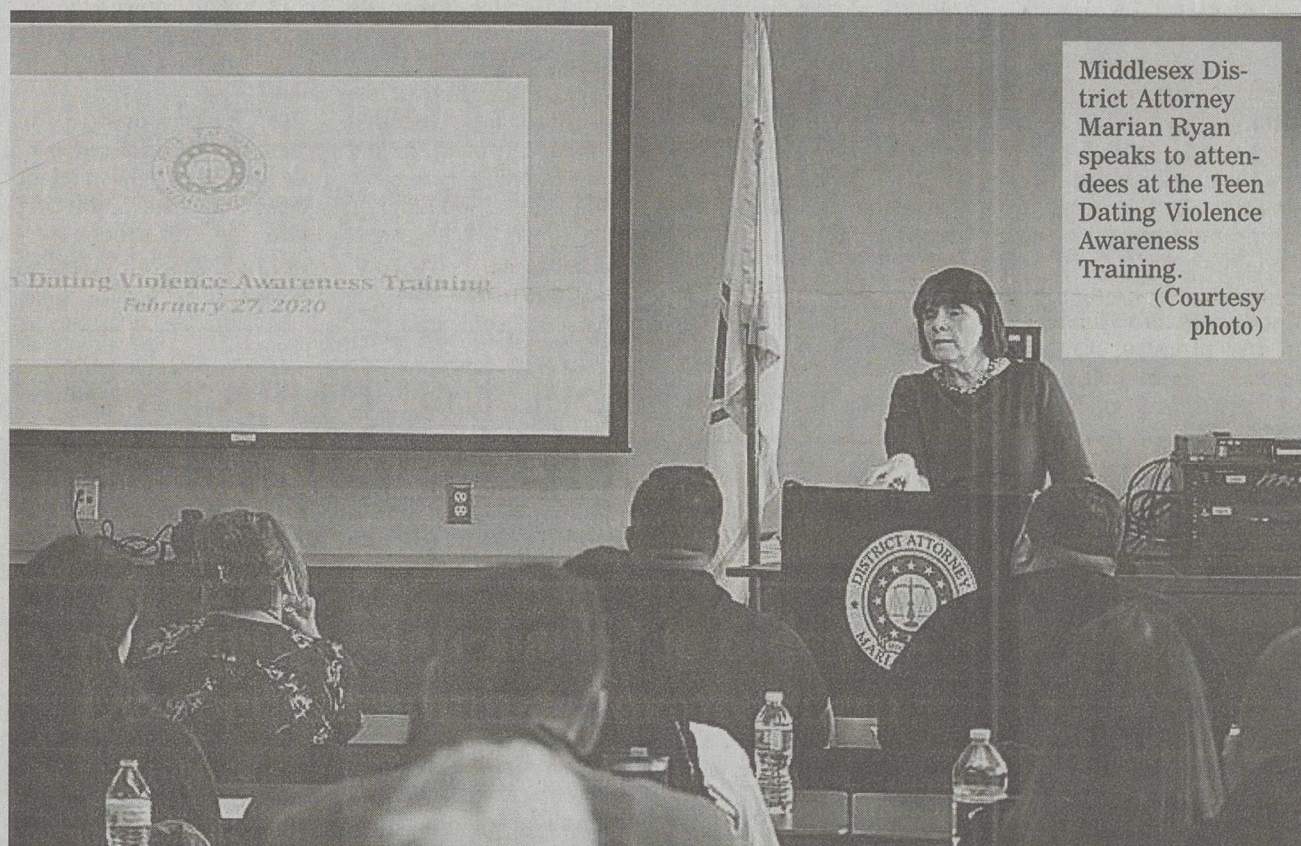
There were no nominations for state or town committee for the Green-Rainbow party or Libertarian party. The Town Clerk's unofficial results didn't include any Libertarian or Green-Rainbow party primary presidential numbers.



Protest on Fordham Road

Fordham Road in Wilmington has been the scene of protest for the past few weeks. Local construction workers have been out in the cold to voice their disdain. They say most if not all of the construction on the Amazon Prime location is being given to out of state companies.

(photo: BruceHilliard.com)



Middlesex District Attorney Marian Ryan speaks to attendees at the Teen Dating Violence Awareness Training. (Courtesy photo)

Teen dating violence training seminar

WOBURN — Middlesex District Attorney Marian Ryan, in partnership with Reach Beyond Domestic Violence and Respond, INC., hosted a Teen Dating Violence Training last week to help after school providers, school personnel and school resource officers identify the warning signs of teen dating violence.

The training, organized during the Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month, is part of the District Attorney's initiative to increase education about healthy relationships and to raise awareness about available resources.

According to a report from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, nearly 1.5 million high school students nationwide experience physical abuse from a dating partner and more than half of women (69.5 percent) and men (53.6 percent) who have been physically or sexually abused, or stalked by a dating partner, first experienced abuse between the ages of 11 and 24.

Some tips for adults to help prevent and address teen dating violence are:

- Have the conversation about healthy relationships early and often.
- Educate yourself about the warning signs of teen

dating violence, including isolation, changes in behavior and appearance and jealousy and possessiveness.

- Have conversations which model consent and communicate boundaries in everyday scenarios (for example, modeling a healthy boundary of putting away phones during family dinners).

- If you become concerned about your child's relationship, use language that communicates concern instead of judgment. Focusing on the behaviors and changes you've noticed that have made you concerned, rather than criticizing your child's partner, is most effective.

Teen Dating Violence can have a significant impact on the mental, emotional and physical health of youth, creating depression and anxiety and causing them to engage in unhealthy behaviors. If you have questions or concerns about a loved one, Respond's hotline is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week at 617-623-5900.

Last year to help facilitate conversations around healthy relationships, the Middlesex District Attorney's Office, in partnership with Greater Lowell Technical High School, launched the Healthy

Heart Matters App to help young people identify unhealthy or potentially abusive relationships through different scenarios.

The app provides real-life situations and helps give guidance on what is healthy or unhealthy in a relationship. The app is available for iPhones and can be downloaded in the app store.

Recognizing that teenagers are likely to talk to a friend or peer about their relationship, the Middlesex District Attorney's office also partners with schools to encourage students to make healthy decisions and to think critically about behaviors that may become normalized among their peers.

For more information about these programs, visit www.middlesexda.com.

Members of the Boys and Girls Clubs from Arlington, Stoneham, Wakefield and the Metrowest; Police Departments from Acton, Arlington, Bedford, Concord, Groton, Holliston, Maynard, Marlborough, North Reading, Tewksbury, Stoneham, Wakefield, Watertown and Westford; the Somerville YMCA; The Public Schools from Everett, Wakefield and Arlington; Winchester Coalition; Eliot Family Resource Center; and the Recreation and Parks

from Natick participated in the conversation with the specialists Jessica Teperow, Director of Prevention Programs for Reach Beyond Domestic Violence, and Zoe Sachs, Community Intervention and Engagement Coordinator at Respond Inc..



Town Crier

Do you have a family member or friend serving in the Military?

Whether or not you are a subscriber to the Town Crier we will mail at **NO CHARGE** a subscription of the Town Crier to that person.

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Treatments invented at St. Jude have helped push the overall childhood cancer survival rate from 20 percent to more than 80 percent since we opened more than 50 years ago. We won't stop until no child dies from cancer, but we can't do it without you.

Please help at stjude.org

St. Jude patient Sebastian, brain cancer

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
Finding cures. Saving children.®

Moulton has at least one Republican challenger for Nov.

MORAN FROM PAGE 1

2016 and 2018. His new Republican opponent boasts that between his unique identity, background and ideologies, there's never been anyone in Congress like him. Moran graduated from the University of Rochester with a bachelor's degree in Optics. His work began before that, as he paid his way through college designing T-shirts and signs as an entrepreneur. He gained professional experience at the MIT Lincoln Laboratory in Lexington, where he ran all of the optical testing for a large, space-based telescope. He later received his MBA at Boston University. He also created a marketing agency and a surfing sport apparel brand. After running a nonprofit organization for many years, Moran is running for Con-

Happy Birthday, Mona Jean and Mildred!



Two milestone birthdays — Back row, Blaire House staff Cindy Barcellos, Director, Adult Day Health; Emily Donahue, Social Worker at Blaire House of Tewksbury; Martha Daley, family friend; front row, Mona Jean Somerville, 103 years old; Mildred Sweeney, 100 years old, Carol Touzet, Mildred's daughter. (photo: BruceHilliard.com)

gress with a goal of re-branding the GOP. Moran took his first step into politics in 2016 when he wrote the book *Cues for Conservatives*. As a gay, Irish Catholic Republican, he says that in the book

he's criticizing the right for only reaching white, middle-aged Christians. "It's about how to better engage and reach a younger and wider audience of conservatives and uniting the movement," Moran shared.

He wants to see the Grand Old Party renamed the Grand Opportunity Party, as they seek the support of anyone who supports personal, economic, social, educational, and national opportunity for America.

This candidate is running on a platform of what he deems as inaction from the current Congressman and an opportunity for Republicans to reach younger and more diverse audiences.

"Moulton is obsessed with Trump to the point where nothing is getting done in Congress," said Moran. "Far left radicals like Seth Moulton do not want to compromise or work with the other side."

It's Moran's opinion that Moulton hasn't delivered on his promises to help veterans or to help jobs and transportation in the

City of Lynn.

Furthermore, he stands against Moulton on a number of political issues. Where Moulton is in favor of regendering children and moving toward single-payer healthcare, Moran is opposed; and where Moran is in favor of school choice and the Criminal Aliens Act, Moulton is opposed.

Moran also takes pro-business, pro-limited taxes, and anti-socialism stances.

"As a politically active citizen, I believe I could do a much better job than him," he continued.

The main way that he aims to be more effective is by working with the other side.

Moran isn't afraid to reach out to people outside of his party.

"The right and the left are only talking to their audience. I want to reach out and have conversations with all groups of people. Everyone is my constituent."

Moran believes that his politics appeal to anyone who stands for unity, liberty, and opportunity. "Unifying the district,

state, and country is critical. Division is poisonous."

While he's not ignoring the Republican base where he fits, he has fresh ideas to reach out to people that the party has previously ignored.

Part of his more diverse message to the disillusioned is talking about the issues that they care about: the environment, healthcare, and student loan debt.

"There's a lot more to worry about than carbon pollution: plastic pollution, gas emissions, and soil degradation."

His background in science enables him to be a more educated voice in these conversations in Congress, as he says that most of Congress is made up of litigators, lawyers, and lobbyists.

Moran promises to prioritize efforts for reforming healthcare, education, and immigration.

"Healthcare quality is going down while prices are going up," he said. "Sanctuary cities are not

popular... there are other things we can do that don't include secession against the federal government."

For education, he would promote school choice, more parental control, and less federal government and more local government involvement. All of these issues and more, he feels, have been ignored under Moulton.

After his campaign kicked off on Feb. 25 at his Billerica home, Moran is already seeing positive energy and support going forward.

"I don't like the separation of Democrat and Republican; you're either pro-opportunity or anti-opportunity. I believe the vast majority of Americans are for unity, liberty, and opportunity. That's why I think I'm going to win."

He looks forward to earning a win for the people of the 6th District of Massachusetts starting with the Republican primary election on Tuesday, Sept. 1.

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Sgt. Bai to speak at Veterans Benefit Night

WILMINGTON — Wilmington's veteran's services will host guest speaker, Seth Bai, who will be appearing at the Veterans Benefit Night happening March 5, Thursday, from 4 - 7 p.m. at the Masonic Hall, 32 Middlesex Ave.

Bai was raised in Attleboro and graduated from Bishop Feehan High School in 1996. After a few attempts at jobs and career fields, Seth had long known he wanted to become a U.S. Marine. Sgt.

Bai served nearly a decade on active duty assignments from 1999 to 2009. He attended Recruit Training at the San Diego Recruit Depot and was later stationed at Marine Base Camp Pendleton for the next five years.

He was attached to the Fighting Fifth Marines Regiment, Second Marine Battalion — Fourth Marines (Special Operation Capable), known as the Amphibious Raid Unit, The Magnificent Bastards. After his first Marine Expeditionary Unit deployment in 2001 he became the father of twin daughters. After the events of 9/11 he deployed twice more in Operation Noble Eagle and in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

In 2004 he took a recruiting assignment here in southern New England. Sgt. Bai recruited during the height of the unpopular Iraq and Afghanistan Wars and managed to have a successful tour while leaving a positive impact on his community and the U.S. Marine Corps next generation legacy.

During Bai's last year in the Marines he matriculated into his bachelor program at Boston College studying social work. Upon medical retirement, his service he applied and was hired for the job post-

ing as the Director of Veterans' Services in the Town of Seekonk.

Bai began his career there and slowly learned the important work that is still left to accomplish when servicing veterans after they have completed their respective times with the country's military. He became actively involved in committees and outreach teams within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Bai graduated from Boston College in 2012 and soon after assumed the role as the Director of Veterans Services' for the City of Newton in 2015. From 2016 - 2017, he was installed as the President of the Massachusetts Veterans Service Officers Assoc.

Bai is currently in his fifth year in the City of Newton and currently in his second year at Boston College seeking his Master's Degree in Leadership and Public Administration.

Currently, Bai is working on two projects outside of his usual scope of veterans work. The 2nd Battalion - 4th Marines, The Magnificent Bastards currently have a full documentary that is being released to the public via film festivals throughout the country. The film is about the aftermath of coming home from service, the horrors of combat and the invisible wounds of war.

The film is primarily focused around one of Bai's junior Marines, Jonathan Hancock, and his struggles and triumphs after returning home. Bai has also undertaken the responsibility of remembering the life and service of Sergeant Major Todd Parisi who had his own battles with PTSD and the invisible wounds of war which lead to his sudden and tragic exit from our ranks.

Officially the first female AD,
sixth in school history

Muzio named the new WHS Athletic Director

By JAMIE POTE
Sports Editor

jamiepote@hotmail.com
WILMINGTON - On Saturday morning, Wilmington Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Glenn Brand announced in an email sent out to the local community, that Mia Muzio has been named the new Athletic Director at Wilmington High School effective, July 1st, pending successful contract negotiations.

Muzio, who is currently serving as the interim Athletic Director at Weymouth High School since September, will become the school's sixth official Athletic Director and first female, following Larry Cushing Sr., James Martin, Jim Gillis, Ed Harrison and Tim Alberts. Harrison has returned for a one-year interim tag which will end on June 30th, replacing Alberts who left last June 30th to take the same position at Triton Regional.

Laura Barland, well before Cushing Sr when athletics first started at WHS, served as the Director of Athletics at WHS, however, she was not officially given the title, nor did she receive extra pay for her efforts.

Brand said in that email, that the search for the new AD was pretty involved.

"The Wilmington Public Schools recently embarked upon a search for the next Director of Athletics," he wrote. "The search involved multiple phases that began with

next Director of Athletics to possess at the outset of the process."

Brand then wrote that he was pleased to announce that Muzio accepted the verbal offer, but it won't be official until contract negotiations are met. With belief that will happen, Brand went on say that, "Ms. Muzio has extensive involvement with athletics as a head coach, student-athlete and administrator. She also possesses wide ranging and diverse experiences in athletic leadership and management including:

- * Interim Athletic Director - Weymouth High School
- * Athletic Assistant - Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District & Triton Regional School District
- * Certificated as a Registered Athletic Administrator - National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association

- * Awarded Level 2 Certified Interscholastic Coach status - National Federation of State High School Associations
- * Awarded USA Field Hockey Level 1 Certified Coach status
- * Licensure as a Physical Education Teacher in Mass.

- * Registered Athletic Director (Massachusetts)
- * Head junior varsity and varsity softball coach (Rockport High School & Triton Regional School District)
- * Head junior varsity and varsity coach in field hockey (North Reading

Hockey Level 1 Certified Coach status

Hockey Level 1 Certified Coach status



Mia Muzio, shown here during the open public forum several weeks ago when she was one of the three finalists, was named the new WHS AD on Saturday. (file photo/JoeBrownphotos.com).

the screening committee reviewing over 45 applications, interviewing ten candidates and advancing three semi-finalists.

"The second phase included site visits to Wilmington (which included a community forum) as well as to the candidate's home district. The third and final phase involved a review of references from community members, staff and students and a thorough consideration of all of the feedback generated from almost 150 feedback forms.

"Ultimately, the information on the semi-finalists was compiled and considered alongside the qualities, experiences and characteristics that our stakeholders identified as most important for the

High School and Triton Regional School District).

Muzio was one of the three finalists for the position, along with Brian Cairra, a Wilmington Middle School Teacher, and Mike McCaffrey, the current Athletic Director at Windham, New Hampshire High School. In the email, Brand explained his reasoning for naming Muzio.

"Ms. Muzio enjoyed strong support across the feedback gathered throughout the site visits from coaches, administrators, community members and students. In particular, stakeholders pointed to her many strengths that include a wide array of experiences in different

MUZIO PG SP3W



From left, Jenna Tavanese (2), Jenna Sweeney (14) and Kylie DuCharme (23) celebrate after scoring a basket during the Wilmington High School girls' basketball team's win over Somerville played last Wednesday night before the home crowd. (photo by Bob DeChiara).

Wilmington prevails over Dracut despite poor officiating

Foul Basketball!!!

Wildcats advance to sectional semi-finals to face No. 1 Pentucket

By MIKE IPPOLITO
Sports Correspondent

sports@yourtowncrier.com

WILMINGTON - Survive and advance. It has been the mantra of teams in post season play for as long as anyone can remember and it remains the same today. This past Sunday afternoon, the Wilmington High Girls Basketball team did just that, surviving not only a gritty, much better than their record Dracut team, but also some brutal officiating, to come away with a 61-56 victory in the MIAA Division 2 North quarterfinals at Cushing Gymnasium.

In a game that featured a total of 76 fouls and 122 free throws between both teams, with five Wilmington players, including four of their starters, fouling out of the game (nine in all), the Wildcats eventually came out on top, advancing to the sectional semifinals -- for the second time in three years -- where they will take on defending Division 2 state champion Pentucket on Wednesday night at Lawrence High School.

To be clear, the officiating was brutal for both sides, with four members of the Middies also fouling out of the game, but the Wildcats certainly got the worst of the exchange with starters Kylie DuCharme, Jenna Tavanese, Jenna Sweeney and Anne Wingate, along with key reserve Alyssa Morrison, all having fouled out by around the midway point of the fourth quarter.

Making the whole situation worse was that it was not was not as if the teams were committing extremely hard fouls, or engaging in chippy play. It just seemed that nearly every trip up the court, a foul was called, one way or the other.

Morrison started the procession to the bench when she fouled out with 22 seconds left in the third quarter. Keep in mind, she didn't even enter the game until late in the first quarter. Sweeney followed her to the sidelines just 14 seconds into the fourth quarter, where she was soon joined by Wingate, who picked up her fifth foul with 6:00 left in the game.

The Wildcats two leading scorers, DuCharme and Tavanese each fouled

out within 13 seconds of each other later in the quarter, with DuCharme heading to the bench at

the 3:40 mark and Tavanese following shortly thereafter, with 3:27

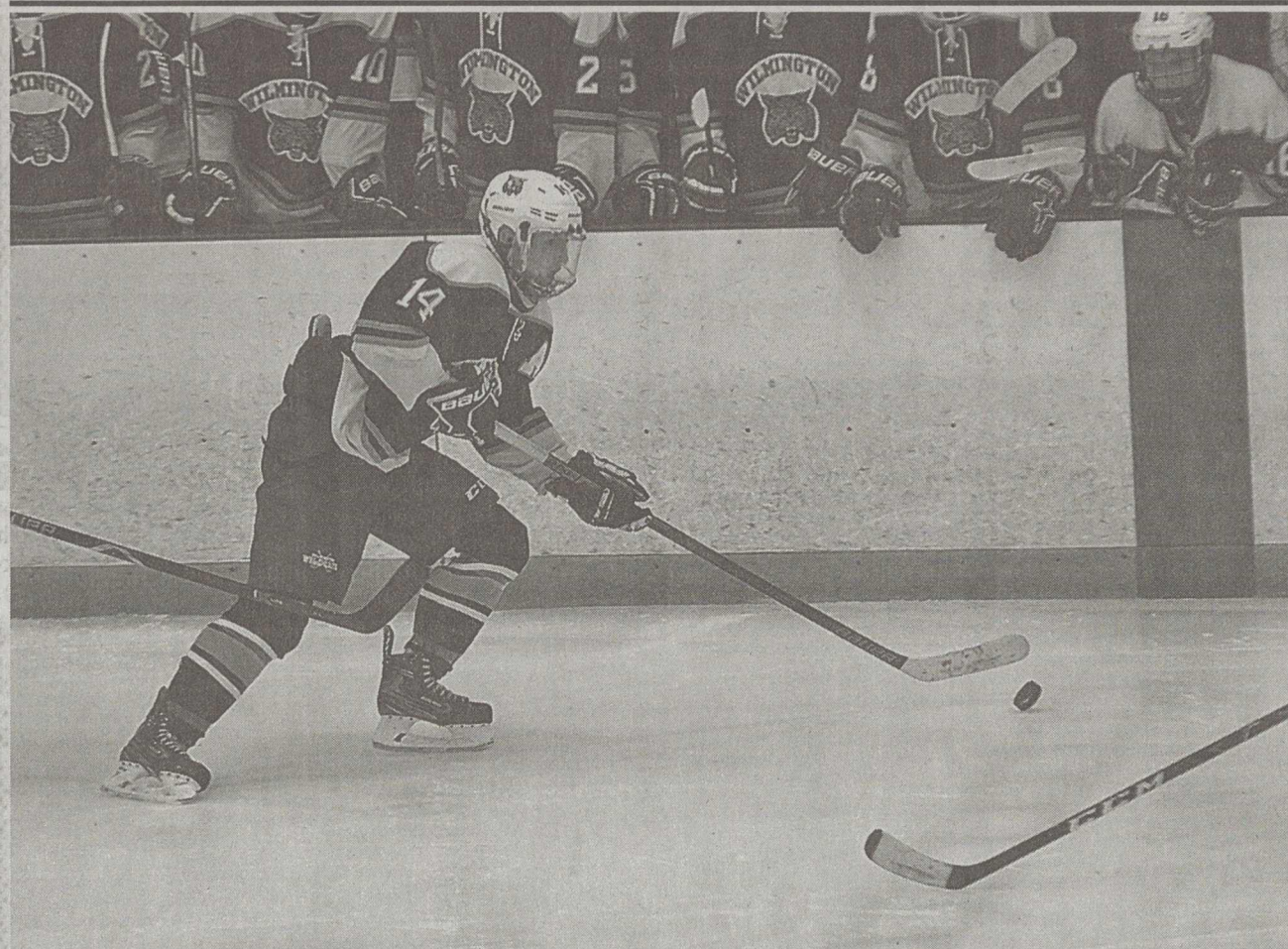
To put it in perspective, the teams shot a combined 82 free throws in the

CATS PG SP4W



Wilmington High senior Anne Wingate goes up strong to the basket, while Somerville's Jemima Joseph and Wilmington's Jenna Tavanese trail the play during last Wednesday's first round state tournament win played at home. (photo by Bob DeChiara).

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Above Christian Robarge and below Riley Fitzgerald, both handle the puck during the WHS Boys Hockey team's first round playoff win against Marblehead. (photos by Jim Vaiknoras).



Division 2 Boys Hockey North Quarterfinal

Vikings end Wildcats' playoff run

By JAMIE POTE
Sports Editor

jamiepote@hotmail.com
WOBURN - When it comes to the MIAA state tournament, you can make a valid argument that the hardest sport to win a state championship in is ice hockey. You need the highly skilled players - and to play well - a hot goalie, some bounces to go your way, and of course you need to play for a full 45 minutes.

In the two games this past week, the effort from the Wilmington High School boys' hockey team has been nothing short of spectacular. The team found a way to upset No. 4 seed Marblehead last Tuesday night, and scored the first goal in Friday night's game, but over time, the speed from the Triton Regional team became the biggest factor. The Vikings scored the game's next three goals, and then held off a potent attack from the 'Cats the rest of the way and came away with the thrilling 3-2 victory in a Division 2 North Quarterfinal game played at the O'Brien Arena.

Wilmington ends the season with a record of 10-9-3. Of Wilmington's nine losses, five have come against teams who are still alive in the tournament - Arlington and Burlington in the 1A Division, Reading in Division 1 and then Triton.

"For a team like us, for a school like us, playing in the Middlesex League is a real grind," said Wilmington head coach Steve Scanlon. "We don't have any nights off at all. I know there were times in the season when the kids were down, but I give them a lot of credit. We had a real good year and we got really good efforts

out of all of them.

"That's a good Triton team. We had them back on their heels and I thought we had one at the end."

In the first 100 seconds or so, Triton totally dominated and had a handful of shots on net. Wilmington struggled with their speed and had a hard time getting the puck out of their zone. That changed shortly after that, as senior Joe Hill took a loose puck in the neutral zone, skated in from the right side and unleashed a hard shot to the top left hand corner, giving the 'Cats a 1-0 lead.

But 53 seconds later, Wilmington was called for a penalty, and that's been something that has haunted them all season. Triton took advantage and their power play was outstanding with quick movement of passes and players skating and moving all around in the zone. Senior captain Tyler Godfrey took a pass at the right point from Brady Lindholm, who took a quick wrist shot through a screen and it found the back of the net to tie the game up at 1-1.

Wilmington went on its own power play less than two minutes later but could only manage one shot on net. Then shortly after that penalty expired, Triton scored on a defensive breakdown as Brad Killion was behind the Wildcats' net and fed a pass to Cael Kohan, who was wide open in the slot and he quickly put a one-timer past goalie Sam Cedrone (27 saves), who had no chance, and once again played extremely well between the pipes.

"They got the power play goal and the other one on lack of defensive zone coverage and both things have haunted us all sea-

son long," said Scanlon.

Triton took the 2-1 lead into the locker room and held a 13-5 shot advantage.

In the second period, the 'Cats killed off another penalty, and shortly after burning those legs, Triton scored what proved to be the game winner as Cedrone made a first stop on a shot from Kohan, before Killion struck with the rebound, making it 3-1 with 7:19 left in the period.

Then late in the third, senior Christian Robarge gave the 'Cats a much needed lift. He took the puck down the left wing boards. As Robarge picked up some speed, he entered the Triton zone with a defender to his right. That defenseman fell, allowing Robarge to curl into the front of the net, where he flicked a shot to the top right hand corner for a beautiful goal, making it 3-2. Triton held that lead after two and outshot Wilmington 22-8 at that point of the game.

In the third period, the 'Cats really settled down, played much better in their own zone and had equal amount of scoring chances as the Vikings did as both teams ended up tied up with eight shots apiece. Triton had two good offensive bids late in the third but defensemen Matt Pendenza and James Kourkoutas were both terrific in 1-on-1 battles and taking the body.

"We had real good play from our defensemen," said Scanlon. "After the first couple of shifts of the first period, they settled down and played well. They moved the puck good, they banged bodies, there was some good puck separation stuff. CJ Petrie had a real good game and Matt (Pendenza) is just so steady out there. He is so

strong on his skates when he takes the puck out of our zone. He becomes a real factor."

Scanlon pulled Cedrone with about 50 seconds to go and the 'Cats really stormed the fort and had several good bids, including a big scurry in front, but weren't able to drive a third one home.

"We dumped everything we had at them in the third period," said Scanlon. "They got a power play goal, and another one they got on a defensive breakdown and those were things that cost us during the season and came back again tonight."

Wilmington will lose five starting players and eight seniors in all including captain Jared Venezia, assistant captain Christian Robarge, as well as Justin Crowley, Joe Hill, Zachary Kincaid, Ryan Packer, Taylor Padlusk and Brendan George, who was out injured almost the entire season.

"Those seniors did a great job," said Scanlon. "They all went through a lot and they made two runs here in the state tournament. We will miss those guys. We will return a strong nucleus for next year, so hopefully we can work on getting bigger, stronger and better in the off-season."

The 'Cats will return two strong goalies with Cedrone and Alex Fitzler, who was also out all season with an injury, starting defensemen Matt Pendenza, CJ Petrie and James Kourkoutas, and starting forwards Chris Bernazani, Riley Fitzgerald, Andrew and Derek Gallucci, Peter Kourkoutas as well as Robert Courtney, Jason Davey, Aiden Murphy and Anthony Savage.

Girls put forth great effort in tourney defeat

By DAN ZIMMERMAN
Sports Correspondent

sports@yourtowncrier.com

FALMOUTH -- Hockey legend Gordie Howe once said, "You find that you have peace of mind and can enjoy yourself, get more sleep, and rest when you know that it was a hundred percent effort that you gave - win or lose."

After the rigors of some 20 games played over the last several months, countless practices to prepare for those games, and most recently, an eighty-eight mile one-way bus trip to Cape Cod to take part in the program's first tournament in more than a decade, the members of the Wilmington girls' hockey team can hold their heads high with the knowledge that they did, indeed, give one hundred percent.

The Wildcats saw their season come to an abrupt end as a No. 12-seed Falmouth squad dealt them a 3-1 sendoff in the MIAA Division 2 preliminary round, but like other games in the recent past, the girls played their hearts out to the bitter end.

"I really think they are pleased with their achievement," said Wilmington coach John Lapiana, who wrapped up the 2019-20 season with a 6-11-2 record. "In reaching the playoffs, they accomplished something that hasn't happened since the program split with North Reading ten years ago."

Lapiana didn't deny that the Wildcats have struggled for some time, including this year which saw more losses than wins. He recalled that the girls often felt "beat up" and described themselves as the "doormat" of the league. Some might say that the failures of the past contributed to weak player turnout as the season got underway.

Lapiana had only 15 players, 14 skaters and a goaltender, to work with. But despite the lack of numbers, this hardy group pushed through the fatigue and as Lapiana described it, "they got to play in a game that nobody on this team has played before."

"This was their reward for coming to all those practices and grinding it out," Lapiana said. "They did the job, day after day, and tolerated me for ninety days. Their much-deserved reward was a trip to the tournament and a league co-championship."

Lapiana was referring to the Wildcats claiming a share of the Middlesex Freedom League title, finishing in a deadlock with Wakefield. As he explained it, the rival clubs would be considered co-champions of the league.

"At the end of the day, both teams had fourteen points at the finish," the coach said. "There are no tie-breakers to resolve such a situation. But regardless, even if we had trailed in second place, we would have been granted a playoff berth because the MIAA invites the top-two teams."

While No. 21 Wilmington made the long journey to Falmouth last Wednesday night, No. 19 Wakefield came up short in their preliminary round, edged by Norwood, 2-1, in a double-overtime affair.

Wilmington, meanwhile, was skating with authority

in their contest against the Falmouth Clippers, entirely dominating their host at the outset. Junior forward Ida Bishop, who led the Wildcats in scoring during the regular season, put her team in front midway through the first period. Bishop collected a feed in the neutral zone, lugged the puck toward the slot, sidestepped the lone defenseman, and buried a go-ahead goal. Unfortunately, according to Lapiana, his team slipped-up soon after the first intermission.

"During the second period, we suffered a five-minute lapse and that's when Falmouth scored all their goals," the coach recalled. "Their first was on a freak hop in the first minute of play and the second one came only minutes later when we allowed a skater to curl off the wall and line up for a shot. She beat Melanie (Hayden) top shelf."

Wilmington pulled out all the stops in the final frame, including the standard strategy in these instances.

"I traded Melanie for an extra attacker with 1:29 left," Lapiana said. "We applied a lot of pressure and had a few good flurries of activity in front of the goal mouth but couldn't put anything home. It was a dogfight and I'm sure Falmouth was relieved when the game ended."

During that final shift, Lapiana deployed all three of his seniors - Payton Fuller, Gina Bertolami, and Bridget O'Shea. It was important to him, he explained, that they finish the season and their high school careers on the ice. Senior goaltender Melanie Hayden, of course, remained on the bench as the Wildcats sought to rally back from a two-goal deficit.

Speaking of Hayden, who was the foremost reason behind the Wildcat's success this year, Lapiana was asked if he had any goaltending prospects in the pipeline.

"There is an eighth-grader considering coming to Wilmington High School," he shared. "But she also has Shawsheen on her radar, so we'll have to see. We won't know for sure for a few months."

As far as the nucleus of the Wildcats, Lapiana reports that the team should return next season in very good shape. Most of the goal-scoring came from juniors including Bishop and Zoe DeRose. He'll also have at his disposal a pair of talented freshman in Katelin Hally and Gabriella Daniels who now have a year's experience to work with. The coach also anticipates contributions from Ashley and Amanda Mercier, Sofia and Antonia Brunetto, Maria Hernandez, Paige Fuller, and Kiley Flynn.

"We're hoping, with this core of returning players, that we won't have to start at ground zero with the thought process and discipline," Lapiana said. "They're great kids but they're also teenagers and have that occasional lapse, which cost us in the Falmouth game. But they work hard and try to do everything we ask of them. We're looking forward to next season."



Maria Hernandez in action for the WHS Girls Hockey team during an earlier season game. (photo by Bob DeChiara).

Ganley closes book on his tremendous wrestling season

By MIKE IPPOLITO
Sports Correspondent

sports@yourtowncrier.com
METHUEN - It has been a truly great season for Wilmington High junior wrestler Joe Ganley. The 126-pound grappler not only captured the Division 3 North Sectional championship for the second consecutive season, he also earned a runner up finish at the Division 3 State Tournament, with his first round win at the state tournament giving him 100 for his career.

His fine season continued this past weekend at the All-State Wrestling Tournament at Methuen High School, and while he wasn't able to qualify for the All New England Tournament as he had hoped, he did manage to come away with one victory over the weekend, wrapping up his outstanding season with an overall record of 41-7. He also now has 103 wins for his career.

"Joe wasn't able to get a win at All-States last year, and that was definitely one of his goals for this year, so it was great to see him get that done," Wilmington coach Joel McKenna said. "What he wanted for this year was to be get a little better than

last year, and he did that in every respect."

Ganley's tournament got off to a rough start, as the No. 5 seed suffered a major decision (10-0) upset loss to No. 12 seed Dante Rossetti of Dracut in the first round of the tournament. Although, calling the loss an upset does somewhat of a disservice to both Ganley and Rossetti, as the Dracut star is ranked fourth in the state of Massachusetts at 126 pounds.

"Rosetti is a great wrestler, and Joe give him a battle," McKenna said. "The score does not indicate how the match actually went. Joe was only down 5-0 at the start of the third period, but he took some shots trying to get a pin, and got caught and that is where the other five points came from."

Ganley bounced back nicely in the consolation bracket, with a win by pin over Ethan Smith of North Attleboro in a time of 3:41.

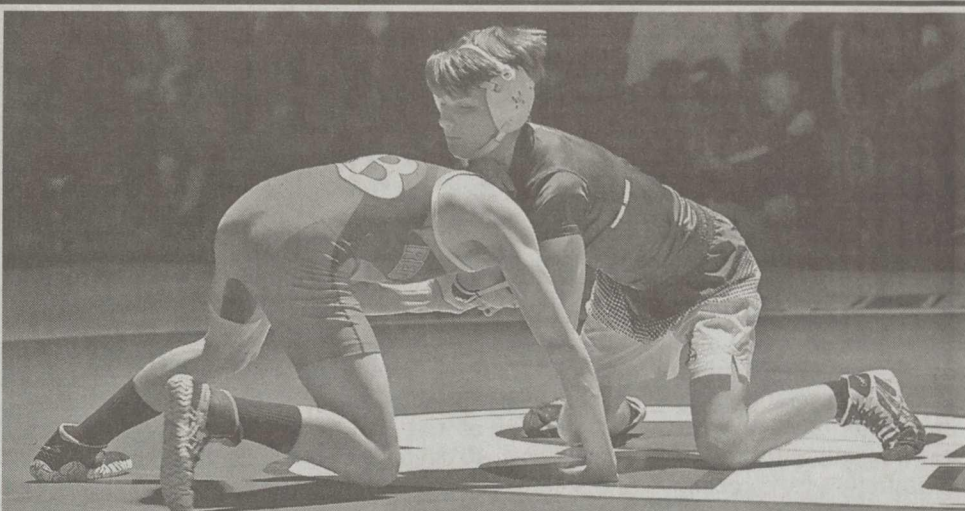
"Joe did a great job in that one. He was really in control of the entire match both offensively and defensively, so that was a huge confidence boost for him," McKenna said. "I think it was a great weight lifted off his shoulders to get a win at All-States

after coming so close last year."

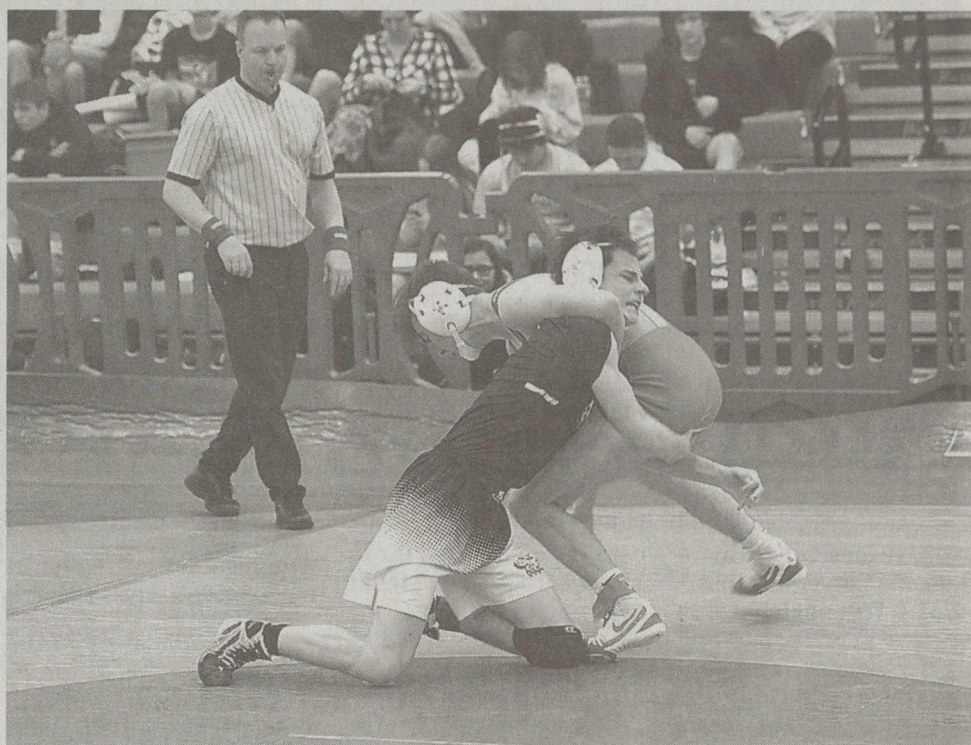
Ganley saw his tournament come to an end in his next consolation bracket with a loss to Jon Lafferty of Woburn. Lafferty, who would go on to finish fourth in the tournament, was another wrestler whose seeding at All-State may not have indicated just how good he is, as he ranked third in the state at 126 pounds.

Ganley may have fallen short of ultimate goal, but it was an outstanding season nonetheless and McKenna is confident that he can be even better next season.

"Joe had one of the best seasons by an underclassman in school history," McKenna said. "We talk all the time about getting a little bit better every time out, and if he gets a little bit better next year, he is in position to have a really special season. He has a chance to be a three-time sectional champion and get to the (Division 3) state finals again next year and win it. The goal next year for him will be to place at the All-State meet and get to compete at the New England Tournament and those are very reasonable goals for him."



Wilmington High junior Joe Ganley, shown here during an earlier season match against Burlington's Joe Perna, finished off an excellent this season this past weekend at the All-State Meet. (photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).



During the course of this season, Joe Ganley picked up his 100th victory as well as a Division 3 Sectional crown. (courtesy photo/Chris Misuraca).

Mia Muzio named the new WHS Athletic Director

FROM PAGE SP1W

school districts and athletic programs, her extensive coaching experience and certification and the philosophy regarding what supports an effective athletic program related to cultivating benefits for the whole child.

"Additionally, insight from those reference and site visit participants identified Ms. Muzio as a leader who is visible, approachable, confident and insightful and who is skilled at interacting effectively with students,

parents/guardians, coaches and her administrator colleagues alike."

Muzio, 30, graduated from Rockport High School in 2007. She played three years of field hockey, served as captain and during her senior year, was named the Team's MVP, was selected to the Cape Ann League All-Conference team, as well as to the Massachusetts All-State team, playing the defensive back position. She also played softball at RHS.

After high school, she went on to play field hockey at Ithaca College. She was a starting player each of her last three years and was named to the All-Empire 8 League All-Conference second team as a junior and senior and also served as a captain.

After college, Muzio got into coaching. She was the head field hockey coach at North Reading High School from 2013-'16, compiling a record of 27-51-5, which included one state tournament appearance

in 2015. That year the team finished 8-9-2 overall, including a first round tournament loss to Ipswich. That was the first playoff appearance for the program since 2011.

Muzio also served as the JV Softball coach at Rockport from 2014-15, which included one undefeated season, and was also the assistant softball and field hockey coach at Triton Regional from 2017-'2019.

Professionally, Muzio

served as the Athletics Assistant at Triton from August 2017 to April of 2018, left to become the Athletic Assistant/District Building Use Coordinator at Hamilton-Wenham

Regional, serving from May 2018 to July of 2019. From there she became the interim AD at Weymouth.

Parents/Coaches Meeting, March 10

The Wilmington High School Athletic Department as announced that the Spring Parent/Athlete/Coaches meeting will be held at WHS Auditorium on Tuesday March 10th at 6pm. The Spring season will start on Monday March 16th.

Please make every effort to be in attendance and have an opportunity to ask your questions.



Herb Chambers

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Foul Basketball!!! 'Cats get past Dracut

FROM PAGE SP1W

second half alone, a span of 16 minutes of game time. Granted, some of it was the Middies fouling the Wildcats intentionally late in the game, but the total was still outrageous.

Wilmington coach Jessica Robinson was asked after the game if she had ever been part of a game like this, and not surprisingly, she, like everyone else in attendance on Sunday, never had been.

"No, absolutely not, because of the frequency of the whistles it was hard for the game to have a flow to it. You have practices to prepare for game situations, work on different schemes and things you want to try, and all of that work gets negated when the game doesn't have a flow to it," Robinson said. "We have never had a game with foul trouble all year and we have never had more than one person foul out."

No. 4 Wilmington (16-5) was led by 17 points and eight rebounds from senior Olivia Almeida, the only member of their starting lineup to not foul out of the game, while No. 12 Dracut (9-13) got a game high 26 points from freshman Ashlee Talbot, including 17 in the fourth quarter.

DuCharme and Tavanese both once again had outstanding games for the Wildcats, despite being in foul trouble from the second quarter on. DuCharme had 17 points and 23 rebounds, while Tavanese had 13 points, five steals and four assists.

The real story of the game for the Wildcats however, was the key minutes they got off their bench, with players like Olivia Spizuoco, Kiara Nadeau, Madison Grace and Kayla Smith all contributing with big minutes down the stretch to seal the game away.

"Our bench stepped up big time," Robinson said. "That was a big time step up to kind of go along with what has helped up be successful all season. We played like a team and they stepped up to the plate. I don't think I did a good job preparing them for that moment, because that's not something I would ever anticipate happening, having five players in our rotation on the bench fouled out. So, for lack of preparation, they did a heck of a job stepping up and closing out that game."

Wilmington led 16-6 at the end of one quarter and extended their lead to as many as 17 in the second quarter before settling for a 30-17 lead at the half. Both teams struggled to find their offense early on, with Wilmington leading 6-0 midway through the first quarter and Dracut not scoring their first points until 3:33 remained in the quarter. Almeida, however, was locked in, scoring one first quarter points on three 3-pointers to help the Wildcats to their seven point lead after the first eight minutes.

DuCharme scored six points in the second quarter, four of them from the line to help the Wildcats extend their lead to as many as 17 with 1:15 left in the half when Sweeney hit a bucket to make the score 30-13. Four of DuCharme's six points came from the free throw line, where she was stellar all game, where she scored 15 of her 17 points, going 15-for-18 from the line.

After leading by 13 at the half, Wilmington extended their lead once again to as many as 17 in the third quarter after a pair of DuCharme free throws made the score 34-17 with 6:00 left in the frame. But Dracut fought back going on a 9-0 run, with six of the points coming from Talbot, to close within 34-26 with 3:49 left in the quarter.

Wilmington pushed the lead back up to 15 at the end of three quarters at 45-30, with the final four points of the quarter coming on a great sequence by Tavanese. She started by knocking down free throws on consecutive trips down the court, and then with Dracut attempting to make one last bid to close the gap before the end of the quarter, she came up with a steal at about midcourt and went the length of the floor from there for a layup with 3.5 seconds left in the frame.

But once again Dracut battled their way back into the game, and once again it was Talbot leading the way, eventually pulling Dracut to within 53-45 with 2:43 left after hitting four consecutive free throws. With the Wildcats down four starters, it was up to Almeida to step up for her team in the closing minutes, and did she ever.

With the Wildcats leading 55-45, but with Dracut



Wilmington High junior Kylie DuCharme reaches for a rebound while Somerville's Elizabeth McEwen and Wilmington's Alyssa Morrison also try to get in on the play during last Wednesday's home playoff win. (photo by Bob DeChiara).

holding all of the momentum, Almeida, who from midway through the third quarter on with four fouls, hit the shot of the game for her team, nailing a three-pointer with 1:30 left in the game to pretty much put the final nail in the coffin for Dracut's chances.

"I took my last timeout really early, I think with about three minutes left, and we said, we want the ball in Olivia's hands," Robinson said. "Because she is the one with the experience and is a senior leader. And she stepped up big time, being able to finish the game without picking up her fifth foul, and then she hit that big shot for us."

The Middies continued to battle to the end, even converting on a four point play with 5.9 seconds left in the game to account for the 61-56 final, but Almeida's basket all but sealed the deal for the Wildcats.

Wilmington will now move on to the sectional semifinals where they will meet No. 1 seed and defending Division 2 state champion Pentucket on Wednesday night. Pentucket eliminated the Wildcats last season in the sectional quarterfinals by a score of 61-34 and defeated them in the St. Mary's Tournament this season back on February 16 by a score of 68-50.

Beating the 21-2

Sachems will be no easy task, but Robinson and her squad are ready for the challenge.

"They are the team to beat," Robinson said. "We are going to get ready. We have two days to get ready, and give them our best shot."

LEAGUE ALL-STARS

The Middlesex League announced its league all-stars in basketball recently. Wilmington High junior Kylie DuCharme was named the Freedom Division's Most Valuable Player, while, teammate

Jenna Tavanese was named to the All-Conference team and Olivia Almeida was named as a league all-star.

On the boys side, Thomas Mallinson, a sophomore, was named as a league all-star.

Wildcats first knock down Somerville in tourney opener

By MIKE IPPOLITO
Sports Correspondent

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WILMINGTON - While they have gotten contributions up and down their roster all season long, there is no doubt that the Wilmington High Girls Basketball team has been led by the duo of senior guard Jenna Tavanese and junior center Kylie DuCharme. So perhaps it should have come as no surprise that in their first post season game, the pair once again led the way for the Wildcats, carrying them to a 58-49 win over Somerville in the first round of the MIAA Division 2 North Sectional Tournament at Cushing Gymnasium last Wednesday night.

Tavanese topped all Wildcats scorers with 24 points, to go along with six steals, while DuCharme had 23 points to go along with an incredible 25 rebounds, four assists, four steals and three blocks.

"Kylie and Jenna have been able to take on the load for us offensively all year despite a variety of defenses that have been thrown our way," Wilmington coach Jessica Robinson said. "They both have strengths that are not easy for other teams to match up with, whether

it be Kylie's length and skill set, or Jenna's speed and ability to create, and as they've each gained confidence, they continue to do their thing."

The outstanding efforts by Tavanese and DuCharme helped the Wildcats overcome an uncharacteristically slow start. The No. 4 Wildcats led No. 13 Somerville by just one point, 25-24, at the end of the first half, perhaps due in part to the long layoff between games, as they had not played for nine days before their first round game.

But Robinson wasn't making any excuses for her team's start, instead focusing on Somerville's fine play in the early going.

"We had a significant lay off between games, but I don't think that had too much of an effect on us," Robinson said. "Somerville played hard and looked much different from what we had seen on film, they definitely came to play and brought their 'A' game."

"I thought our girls were locked in to the game and willed themselves to victory by continuing to fight despite a tough shooting night. We had a ton of opportunities on offense, but it was just one of those

nights when the shots weren't falling."

The Wildcats went on to dominate the third quarter, outscoring Somerville 15-6 on their way to a 40-30 lead after three and their eventual nine point victory. After the Somerville win, Robinson and the Wildcats turned their attention to their net opponent Dracut, whom they would go on to defeat on Sunday at Cushing Gymnasium in the sectional quarterfinals.

While nobody could have predicted the foul filled affair that the Dracut game would turn into, Robinson definitely knew foresaw the stiff challenge that Dracut would provide.

"When I saw how the seeding's would pan out I knew Dracut would be a tough match up for anyone, as they come out of a really tough conference (MVC) and play some of the top schools in the state," Robinson said. "They are a young team, and that can sometimes be an advantage because young kids tend to play with less intrinsic pressure. We are going to gear up over these next few days and get as ready as we can with what we know about Dracut."



Wilmington's Jenna Sweeney (14) and Annie Wingate (3) try to block Jill Hutchinson's (21) pass during last Wednesday's state tournament opening round win. (photo by Bob DeChiara).



Wilmington High senior guard Jenna Tavanese (2) drives to the basket with Somerville's Jill Hutchinson during the playoff victory. (photo by Bob DeChiara).

Bresnahan helps Endicott capture CCC Championship title

By MIKE IPPOLITO
Sports Correspondent

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Endicott College sophomore forward Morgan Bresnahan and her Gulls teammates have had a great season thus far, and on Saturday night, they capped it off by winning the Commonwealth Coast Conference (CCC) championship with a 74-57 win

over the University of New England. It is the first conference title in program history.

Bresnahan played a huge role in leading the Gulls to the tournament title, grabbing a game high 12 rebounds in the team's 60-54 comeback victory in the tournament semifinals last Thursday night, to go along with

four points, three assists and on block.

Bresnahan has played in 27 games for the 18-10 Gulls this season, averaging 4.5 points and 4.3 rebounds per game.

With their CCC championship win, Endicott has earned the conference's automatic bid into the NCAA Division 3 Tournament and will travel to No. 12/14 nationally ranked Scranton to play in the first round of the tournament on Friday.

Haverford College sophomore forward/center Caroline Andersen helped the Fords win their second consecutive Centennial Conference Championship on Saturday night, as Haverford defeated Gettysburg 49-46 in the conference championship game.

The Fords outscored Gettysburg 30-18 in the second half to stun the Bullets for the third conference crown in program history, and its third consecutive trip to the NCAA Division 3 Tournament. Andersen had two points in nine minutes in the championship game, and has seen action in 27 games this season, averaging 3.3 points and 1.4 rebounds per game.

The Fords (23-4) will be heading to Baldwin Wallace University in Berea, Ohio for a Friday matchup with the host Yellow Jackets (26-2), who are ranked No. 9 in the country.

TRACK-AND-FIELD

Bryant University freshman Emma Garrity posted a school record-breaking performance in the 500 meters at the Northeast Conference (NEC) Indoor Championships on February 22, earning a fourth place finish in a time of 1:16.71.

Garrity was also part of the seventh place 4x400 relay team along with teammates Nicole



Emma Garrity, far right, a freshman at Bryant University, broke a school record in the 500-meters recently. (courtesy photo/BU).

Xiarhos, Grace Yost and Emily Cluck, finishing in a time of 4:04.32.

Tufts University senior Julia Gake had a great day in helping to lead the Jumbos to a third place team finish at the New England Division III Women's Indoor Track & Field Championships at Middlebury College on Saturday.

Gake earned a third place finish in the 600 meters, posting a time of 1:37.51, and followed that up with a seventh place finish in the 4 x 400 relay, along with teammates Campbell Devlin, Hannah Neilon and Julie Perugini in a time of 4:05.62.

On the men's side, Suffolk University freshman Frankie Irizarry and the rest of the Rams men's Track-&Field had a down to the wire finish to capture the first-ever GNAC Indoor title back on February 16 at Boston

University's Track & Tennis Center.

Even as just a freshman, Irizarry contributed to the championship, finishing sixth in the 60-meter hurdles in a time of 10.72 seconds and a seventh place finish in the weight throw with a distance of 36-09.75.

Stonehill College freshman Tyler Thomas wrapped up his first season of college track in impressive fashion, with an 18th place finish in the shot put at the Northeast-10 Indoor Track and Field Championships on February 21 with a distance of 39'8.5. In his meet prior to that, Thomas has earned a 14th place finish in the shot put at the URI Coaches Invitational with a career best throw of 40'10.5.

ICE HOCKEY

Salem State sophomore forward Billy Falter and the Vikings saw their sea-

son come to an end on Saturday night, suffering a 3-2 loss to Westfield State in the quarterfinals of the MASCAC Tournament. Despite missing some time this season, Falter played in 16 games for the Vikings,



BILLY FALTER

and has now played in 41 games in his two year career, tallying six goals and three assists.



Wilmington resident Morgan Bresnahan celebrates after the Endicott College women's basketball team won the CCC Championship title. (courtesy photo).

Herb Chambers

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MIAA to change to statewide playoff format in 2021

By JAMIE POTE
Sports Editor

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MARLBORO - On Friday morning, 333 of the 380 Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association sanctioned high schools across the state met together at Assabet Valley High School where they approved a new plan of a statewide playoff system to take place starting in the Fall of 2021.

The idea has taken over two years to formulate, and members of the Tournament Management Committee, who consist of Burlington AD Shaun Hart as well as Jim O'Leary, Johanna DiCarlo and Sherry Bryant, presented their case in front of a packed group of athletic directors, principals and school administrators with discussion from various people who stood on both sides of the issue. Those discussions took several hours before the vote was taken and the new proposal passed, 193-140.

This new plan will totally alter the current system of high school playoffs in sports such as football, soccer, field hockey, ice hockey, basketball, baseball, softball, volleyball and lacrosse, while there's questions yet to be answered on sports such as track-and-field, swimming, golf, wrestling, tennis, gymnastics as well as those schools that offer skiing and rugby.

The current system which has been in place since 1978, will end in the spring of 2021. The new system will take place that fall. The primary changes will include:

*The state will be realigned to five divisions from the current eight.

*Team Tournaments will be conducted in divisions established statewide versus current system of North, South, Central and

West sectionals;

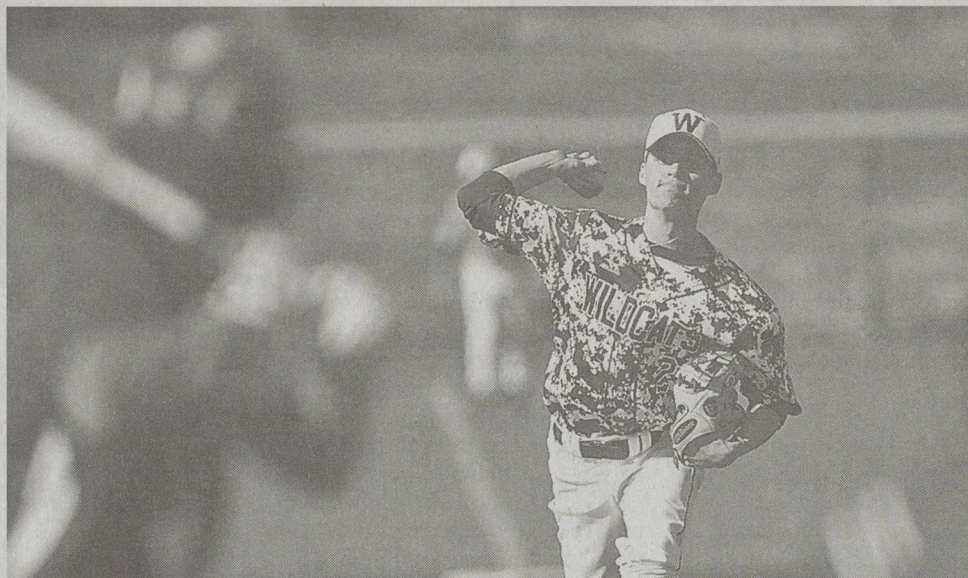
*Qualifying criteria for the state tournament would be the top 32 teams in each of the five divisions, although there's a possibility that the smaller divisions will have 16 teams, will qualify based on Power Rankings. Those teams that finish with a .500 record or better, who don't get in by the Power Ranking System, will still get in and play preliminary round games. All games would be held at the home site of the higher seeds through the rounds of eight, and all state semifinals and finals would be at a neutral site.

*The seeding will be done by MaxPreps.com, which is a power ranking website.

*The alignments will be established by sport committees using the TMC alignment guidelines; Granting of appeals does not necessitate rebalancing of divisions (moving schools down does not require other schools to go up).

The thought process behind the new proposal would be to have "true state champions" in each of the team sports, to avoid playing the same teams over and over again in the tournament, to get schools and divisions aligned properly with fellow schools having relatively the same amount of students, while it will also even out the playing field, meaning every team will play the same amount of playoff games to reach the state final.

Current flaws of today's system includes in this year's Division 1 girls basketball tournament, the North has 16 teams, the South has 15, while the Central has 8 and Western Mass has five. Another one is Division 3 Football teams play an extra game



By the time the new MIAA playoff system begins, Tristan Ciampa will have graduated, but the WHS Baseball program will first be eligible for it starting in the spring of 2022. (photo by Bob DeChiara).

compared to all of the other divisions; Division 2 boys' and girls' soccer state championship game consists just of Eastern Mass teams; In boys' ice hockey, Central and Western Mass only have Division 3 and 3A, and not Divisions 1 and 2; In baseball, there's no Western Mass Division 2 bracket; and in volleyball, it's broken down to North and South which have divisions 1, 2 and 3, but Central/West is divided up to six different brackets.

The drawbacks to this new proposal is traveling as teams could take buses anywhere across the entire state - 190 miles long and 50 miles wide - for a state tournament game. The new proposal could also end rivalries between programs, who usually play league or close by towns so spectators could drop off significantly, or increase with the thought of playing against new teams.

Ron Drouin of Tewksbury, Ed Harrison, who holds the interim position at Wilmington (while the school's next AD Mia Muzio was on hand voting for Weymouth), and Al Costabile of Shawsheen Tech, were the three local Athletic Directors of the Town Crier readership, who were all on-hand and who all voted. Both Drouin and Harrison voted in favor of it, while Costabile voted against it.

Here's what the three of them had to say about their vote.

Ron Drouin: "I'm happy and I think this is a good step for Massachusetts High School Athletics. I think it levels the playing field and it gives more opportunity for championships. I think this is good for our program at Tewksbury High and I think it will allow us to be placed in a division with schools of the same size as us. It clearly squares up the football situation, and I think this will benefit a lot of our programs."

"The new numbers haven't come out yet, but off of our numbers (of students in our high school) from years ago, they still have us placed (in Division 2 for most of our sports) so I'm curious where we will be placed. We were previously placed off a 1,004 students (in the entire high school) and now we're down to

842, so I'm curious with the 162 drop that we have had over the last three years where that is going to place us. We may end up in Division 3 for some sports, but in the league that we play in, we should never have to worry about not getting a strong power ranking because of the strong conference we play in."

"I was all for this, I'm happy that it passed and I think it's a good move for Mass High School Athletics and Tewksbury Memorial High School."

Ed Harrison: "In the beginning, I wasn't really sure if I was voting yes or no, because I had been gone (for three years) and I wasn't quite following the state tournaments and obviously now we have to. And with me being old school, I wasn't really sure if I was interested in this because I was swayed about that one problem or that one issue of not knowing where you are going. You could end up having a game in East Longmeadow or somewhere like that."

"But once I listened more and then once I started talking to our coaches (at WHS), I put it to them to see what their thoughts were and a few of them said the reason they like the idea of the statewide tournament is because in the last five to seven years, it seems like we're playing a team in the tournament who we have already played once, if not twice in the regular season. You can beat a team twice, but beating a team three times in a season is very tough. To me those are some big concerns, so I wanted to go to the coaches, get their input and see how they felt about it. I would say two-thirds of the coaches were for it. I look at girls ice hockey and we went to Falmouth (for our first round game last week) and it was the same way with lacrosse for many years."

"The one thing I really like about this is it's a true bracket, kind of like the NCAA (Basketball) tournament. If you look at our girls basketball team, they are in a 13-team bracket and to me that's not a bracket. That's the other side of the coin. We're going to see and obviously there will be more discussion, and more talk going on, so

we'll see what happens."

Al Costabile: "I think this is good philosophically as far as a change with the whole idea that you want to make something better. But what they are showing you, and I don't want to sound to philosophical here, but you can't see where you are going to be placed. They want to make eight divisions into five divisions, so how are you going to do that, not knowing which teams are going to be in which division? I think the issue is, you are buying something before you can see how it's actually going to affect you."

"With the vocational schools, (the TMC) did express that they will go to the previous ratio or the previous formula used to place the vocational schools. From that standpoint, that was good to hear. There's been talk about having the vocational schools placed in a division lower, and the private schools placed in a division higher, but in some cases, one division is not going to be fair (for some schools on both sides). You have some real large vocational schools that are going to be placed with some very good Division 2 schools, but are really Division 6 schools when the playoffs come around. From that standpoint as an athletic director of a vocational school, you are telling me that you are going to take care of us, but can I see how? There's only five divisions and there used to be eight so it was easier to take care of people before."

"From a league standpoint, I can see how the smaller schools feel. They will be doing some unexpected traveling. That's another issue. They are talking about playing games from Thursday to Saturday, but at the same time, you are going to eventually have to play weekday games. If you are talking about softball or baseball and schools that don't have lights, and you have to travel a great distance, you are going to be taking kids out of school to travel to games. We do have a CAC Small School Division that is very concerned with the amount of traveling."

"Another question I have is what are they going to do with schools that start up new programs? Say for

instance, you are in Division 4 and you start up a new program, is that new program now going to compete with the rest of the D4 teams? We are fighting that now with our girls hockey program. We get in situations where it's very difficult for us, so what's going to happen those schools that start up new programs? I don't know. I just think there is a lot more to understand. They did a heck of a job and they are on the right track, and I know we have to tweak something because nothing is perfect. I'm still not sold."

Costabile also echoed many sentiments that many other AD's, coaches and fans expressed which is MaxPreps handling the Power Ranking system, and the many questions that goes into that formula. He also reiterated the full respect and admiration for those who took up two years of their lives to put this entire plan together with hopes of making it better for all kids throughout the entire state.

"I have to tell you though, what an amount of work (The TMC) had to put in to this," he said. "There was a lot of thought that went into this and a lot of work that went into this so everyone who went to the microphone mentioned that so sometimes you need to have faith in the group, too. It wasn't something that was thrown together. That's for sure. So no matter how this turns out, you have to commend the people that put the effort that they put into this."

"Clearly the people who put this together spent two years on it. The board was made up of coaches and athletic directors, who all had strong athletic backgrounds and strong administrative backgrounds. At some point you need to start having some faith, but at this point you just don't see how it affects you personally. Everything is open to criticism, but this was obviously something that a lot of people wanted to see changed. It's just hard when you don't know how you are going to directly affected by this."

"I'm complimentary of the effort, but I just wished they said 'we know that you all have questions of how we're going to make eight divisions into five, so here's an example' and I think had they done that, it would have helped a lot of people in the small divisions and out West. I know Western Mass is worried about this, especially with the smaller schools."

"I am in favor that there should be some change with the current format, so I don't know if that's tweaking the system or coming out with a new system, but I think change was the one component that everyone had. Like I said, my vote may have changed if I saw where Shawsheen and the other schools from our league are going to be placed."

A look at some of the past enrollment numbers

By JAMIE POTE
Sports Editor

jamiepote@hotmail.com
MARLBORO - Starting in the fall of 2012, there will be a new statewide tournament system starting up with all of Massachusetts High School sports. Part of the new plan is to take eight divisions and trim them down to five, and with 380 sanctioned high schools across the entire state, that will be about 75 programs in each of the five divisions. Today, of the 380 schools, 247 of them are currently competing in either Division 1 or 2.

On the MIAA.net website, there's a link that has the enrollment numbers of each of the 380 schools, which was done from the 2017-'18 school year. The MIAA based its alignments for the current divisions off those numbers.

The numbers from the 2017-'18 school year have already dramatically changed as for instance Tewksbury is down 162 students, with currently 842 total.

That being said the new system will be based strictly on enrollments, however, it's been said that Prep, Vocational/Trade and Charter Schools will be moved up or down a division/divisions.

Based on the MIAA's enrollment numbers (excluding Prep/Vocational Schools) here's a breakdown of the numbers (hopefully I didn't miss any):

*45 schools have enrollments of 1,400 students or more;

*49 schools have enrollments of 1,000 to 1,399 students;

*37 schools have enrollments of 800 to 999 students;

*48 schools have enrollments of 500 to 799 students.

That's a total of 179 non Prep/Voc Schools that have enrollments of between 500 to 4,236 which is the highest number, belonging to Brockton High. In addition to that, there's about seven Prep Schools that will most likely be aligned in Division 1 and then there's 19 Vocational Schools that have over 1,000 students, but most likely those schools will not be in Division 1 or 2, while most of the other smaller Prep and Voc Schools would be placed in the lower divisions.

That will most likely take up the first three divisions.

Tewksbury is currently among the 18 schools in the 900-enrollment range and Wilmington currently is among the 800-range.

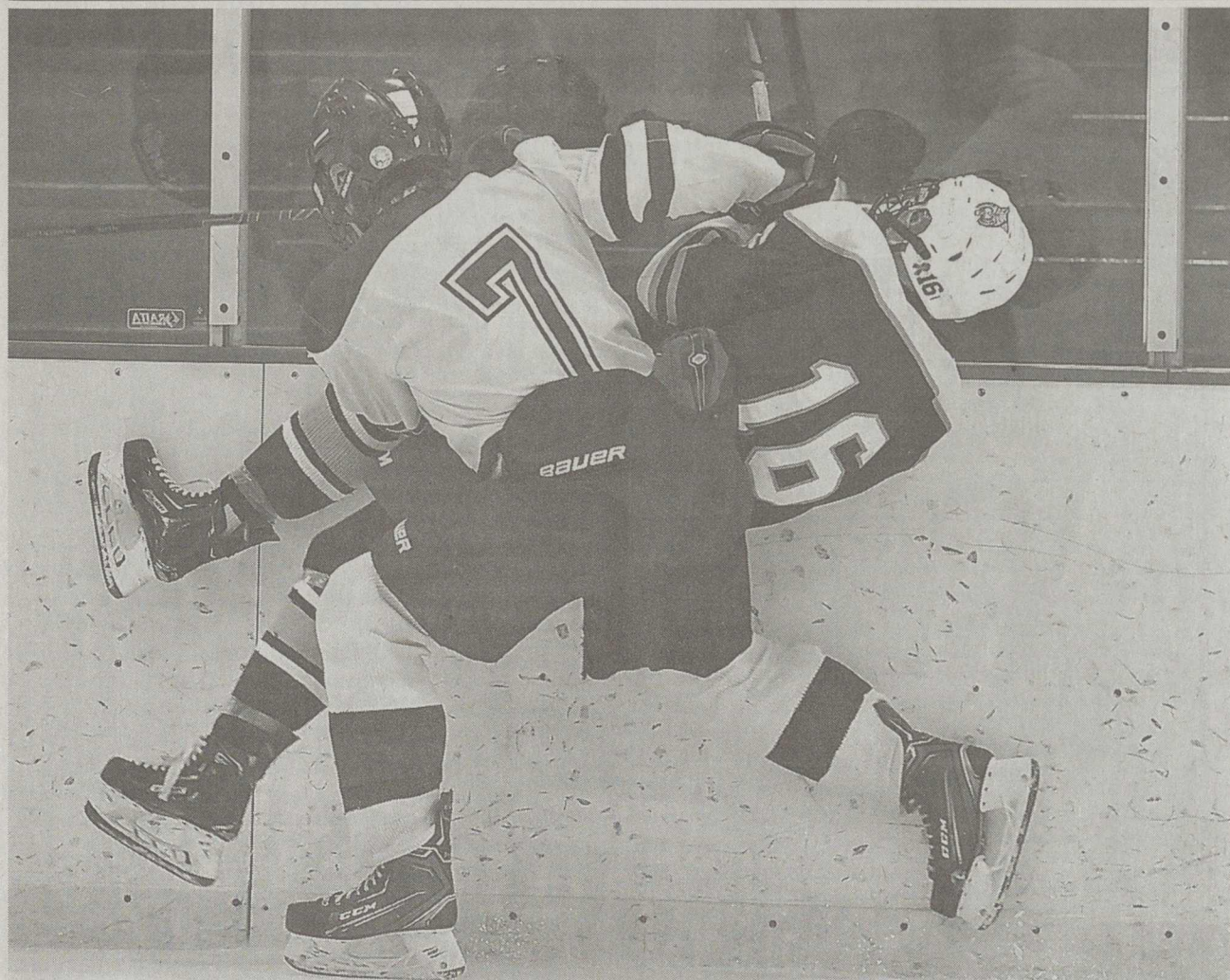
Among the other schools in the 900 range include: Amherst-Pelham, Brighton, Burlington, Canton, Charlestown, Chicopee, Longmeadow, Ludlow, Melrose, Milton, Nauset Regional, Norwood, Salem, Scituate, Somerset-Berkley, Wakefield and Westwood.

Among the other schools in the 800-range include: Bedford, Dighton-Rehobeth, Dracut, East Longmeadow, Falmouth, Foxboro, Gloucester, Gorton-Dunstable, Grafton, Hanover, Holliston, Madison Park, Medfield, North Middlesex, North Reading, Northampton, Pittsfield and Wayland.

These enrollment numbers will all change before the playoff format starts in the Fall of 2021. On top of that schools will be able to appeal where they are aligned, and if they win that appeal and go up or down, that doesn't mean another team will be forced to replace that original team.



Meet this year's Knights of Columbus Regional Free Throw participants, from left includes Adam Veliz, Will Poyant, Andrew Poyant, Event Director Dan Woods, Delaney Ward, Olivia Long, Ayla Biscan, and Preston Hunt. Some of these kids will be participating in the State contest at Boston College in April! Congratulations on a job well done! (courtesy photo).



Shawsheen Tech's Chance Fitzgerald checks Wilmington's Riley Fitzgerald into the boards during the team's regular season game held earlier this season. (photo by Bob DeChiara).

Shawsheen checks past Latin Academy in Division 3 North Quarterfinals

By **DAN ZIMMERMAN**
Sports Correspondent

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WATERTOWN -- New York Islanders goalie Jaroslav Halak summed up the game of ice hockey when he said, "Hockey is a game of mistakes. Whoever makes the most mistakes will lose most of the time."

In Sunday night's MIAA North Division 3 quarterfinals at the Ryan Arena, pitting Shawsheen Tech against Latin Academy, it was a series of mistakes that ultimately spelled elimination for No. 6-seed Latin which most recently, edged No. 11 Northeast Regional, 1-0, to earn the right to face Shawsheen.

The Rams capitalized on their opponent's frequent miscues, scoring three in a five-minute span in the first period en route to a 4-2 win. The game was not as close as the final score indicates.

"In tournament play, it's crucial to get out to a quick start," said Shawsheen coach Chuck Baker, who improved to 14-6-1 overall and will now advance to the semifinals on Thursday to face Cambridge at the Chelmsford Forum with the time, TBA. "And when you're able to force errors and capitalize on them like we did in that first period, it certainly helps build on momentum for the rest of the game."

No. 3 Shawsheen, one of only two teams earning an opening round bye, showed no rust as the contest got underway. In the first minute of play, Anthony Papa nearly put one home, catching Latin netminder Andrew Sahatjian trying to regain his footing as he awkwardly stumbled in the crease. But Latin wasted

little time putting Rams goalie Kam Neault to an early test with a two-on-one break. He deftly deployed the left pad to negate that early threat.

Midway through the first period, Shawsheen caught a break when Sahatjian lost sight of a wayward puck in his crease. Before the goalie could safely glove it, Dan McGaffigan golfed it to the back of the net. Linemate Sean Murphy, who figured in three of the four Shawsheen tallies, was credited with a helper on the go-ahead goal.

With 3:22 left, Murphy added a goal of his own, one-timing an ill-advised centering pass by a Latin defenseman coming out of the corner. Sahatjian, who was proving to be an adventure in net, never saw the puck. McGaffigan and Brady Darcey, who had battled in the corner, chalked up assists on the insurance goal.

"Sean had a great game," said Baker of the junior forward from Tewksbury. "That whole line - Sean, Danny McGaffigan, and Brady Darcey - really stepped it up tonight. Now our hope is to get more contributions from the other lines and we'll be in good shape for Thursday."

The Rams took a commanding 3-0 lead in the final moments of the first. On a feed from JJ Thibert, Kyle Brouillette sent a low velocity shot toward Sahatjian who got a piece of it but not enough to prevent it from trickling over the goal line.

There was no doubt about it - Shawsheen was feasting on Latin miscues. But as the Rams would discover in the second frame, this Latin

Academy squad wasn't quite ready to throw in the towel. With several speed merchants in their arsenal, the Dragons began to press and it paid off. Zack Maffeo gave his team a lift, uncorking a hard wrister that beat Neault, unassisted, through a screen.

"I thought we came out a little sloppy in that second period," Baker said. "You knew the Latin kids were going to come out and play. And once you hit that point, anything can happen. A couple of bouncing pucks and next thing, you're in a tie game. But then we pulled it together and started to play our game, getting pucks down low and creating good opportunities."

One of those opportunities took place at the tail end of the second when Darcey reestablished his club's three-goal advantage. Darcey collected a feed from Murphy and quickly released, finding a seam just inside the goalpost to make it 4-1.

Latin's Aiden Farley combined with James Dillon and Brendan Butler to halve the deficit late in the third. Sahatjian was exchanged for an extra-attacker with 1:55 left but the strategy didn't amount to much, especially when both teams abandoned discipline and filled the penalty boxes.

Shawsheen now advances to face No. 2-seed Cambridge on Thursday night at the Chelmsford Forum. On

hand to scout his next opponent was Cambridge coach Mark Marfione who, when asked what his team did well, answered simply, "We score a lot of goals." He wasn't kidding. During the season and into the playoffs, Cambridge has averaged nearly six goals a game.

"The other night, we allowed forty shots on net," said Baker. "Tonight, our defense did a far better job, limiting the shot count to less than thirty. That's typically what our goalie faces. We'll need more of that in order to move deeper into this tournament."



Derek McGaffigan (right, shown during an earlier season game) of Wilmington, has returned from an injury to help lead the Shawsheen Tech Boys Hockey team past Latin Academy in the Division 3 North Quarterfinals. (courtesy photo).

McGaffigan comes back strong after injury

By **DAN ZIMMERMAN**
Sports Correspondent

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WATERTOWN -- In the rigorous, physically demanding sport of ice hockey, injuries are part of the game. But when a high school senior is sidelined, it is particularly heartbreaking for these athletes because in most instances, there is no "next year" to try again.

Wilmington's Daniel McGaffigan, who plays his hockey for the Shawsheen Rams, sustained a shoulder separation during the second game of this current season, while skating against Billerica. The Rams were defeated in that game but more important, lost the services of one of their top forwards.

McGaffigan was out for six weeks but worked hard to rehab his shoulder and returned in time to help his team notch a late-January win over Methuen. In ten games since rejoining the Rams, McGaffigan has added four goals and four assists to his resume which includes 36-points as a junior, placing him in the top-four on the squad.

Currently, McGaffigan skates on Shawsheen's top offensive line which includes Sean Murphy and Brady Darcey. In Sunday's MIAA North Division 3 quarterfinals round, each of this potent scoring trio contributed a goal leading to a 4-2 win over Latin Academy.

"Our coaching staff was just talking about Dan and how happy we were that he picked up the first goal tonight," said Shawsheen coach Chuck Baker, soon after wrapping the tournament win. "He goes down in my book as one of the best captains we've ever had. He's the type of kid you want to have on the ice and around the locker

room."

"That first goal gave everybody a lot of energy and really set the tone for us," said McGaffigan, who sported a crop of bleached hair, a time-honored high school playoff tradition. "And yes, my line has definitely had time in the spotlight. But three players do not make a team. Ultimately, we win as a team and we lose as a team."

McGaffigan got his hockey start in typical fashion, as a four-year-old. As a lifelong forward, he competed in assorted Wilmington Youth Hockey programs until reaching the fifth grade at which time, he switched to select hockey, playing for the Shamrocks and Bulldogs for several years.

Upon reaching high school and his freshman year at Shawsheen, McGaffigan first gained experience with the junior varsity team but quickly moved up to the varsity ranks. McGaffigan helped the Rams earn a berth in the post-season as a sophomore in 2018 and a junior in 2019 but in both instances, Shawsheen was eliminated in the quarterfinals by Lynn.

This year, the Rams have progressed to the semifinals and will face a high-powered Cambridge group on Thursday night for the right to go to the tournament final.

"We expect our nerves to be a little more on edge," said McGaffigan, who is thankful for the trade he learned at Shawsheen and will soon begin full-time work as an electrician. "When you're playing against an unfamiliar team, that's expected. But at the end of the day, you put in the work, come together as a team, put points on the board, and come out with a win."

Youth and Adult Hockey Tournament, May 29-31

The 'Hope is Our Goal Foundation' founded by Wilmington residents Derek and Scott Fullerton, will be hosting a Youth and Adult Hockey Tournament to benefit the foundation, who helps individuals into traditional 12-step recovery programs.

The event will take place from May 29-31 in rinks located in Middleton, Peabody, Hamilton, Stoneham and Andover. This will be a 4-team tournament per level, so youth will consist of a AAA (Tier-1) team and then an AA (Tier-2) team, and Adult will have B/C and a C/D teams. The cost per team is \$1,500. Space is limited, so register early at "statmonsters.com."

The Hope is Our Goal Foundation helps individu-

als and families into traditional 12 step process recovery programs. Through a group of dedicated individuals and fundraising, the foundation removes gaps that individuals and families experience when trying to find the best type of treatment for their needs.

The foundation currently is connected to a handful 12-step recovery programs (others welcomed), male and female, that allows multiple opportunities for individuals to choose their best recovery option, without social and economical barriers preventing their choice. Our Hope is for the one's battling this disease, that they will find the Hope and Love that can fill their life; and that they know they are loved.

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Rams have four wrestlers compete at All-State Wrestling Meet

By MIKE IPPOLITO
Sports Correspondent

sports@yourtowncrier.com
METHUEN - The Shawsheen Tech Wrestling team was well represented at the All-State Tournament this past weekend, sending three wrestlers to Methuen High School to compete against the best wrestlers in the state.

As they have done all season long, the Rams competed well against the best of the best, with each of their wrestlers winning at least one match, and two of them earning a spot in this weekend's All New England Tournament, with a fifth place finish and a seventh place finish, respectively.

Rams junior Austin Dube was the top Shawsheen finisher on the day, earning a fifth place finish at 120 pounds, going 4-2 on the weekend. Dube, who had won the Division 1 North Sectional championship two weeks ago, before finishing second at last week's Division 1 State Tournament, started his weekend with a pin of Dean Santangelo of Norton in just 42 seconds in his first round matchup.

Dube was then eliminated from the championship bracket in the quarterfinal round with a loss by pin to Ian Darling of Masconomet. Dube then moved on to the consolation bracket where he picked up two consecutive wins, including a pin of Ty Stewart of Dracut in a time of 1:32, before losing to Jake Ice of Minnechaug in the consolation semifinals. Dube had also lost to Ice in last week's state tournament finals.

Dube quickly got over his disappointment however, and moved on to his fifth place match where he pinned Dylan Clifford of Brookline in a time of 3:06 to secure his spot in the New England Tournament.

"He wrestled real well and he got a nice win over the kid from Dracut," Donovan said. "He has worked hard, and when you are in a situation like he was in where if you lose you are out, I want them to think about all the five mile runs they did on Sunday mornings and all the extra sprints they did that the other kids

didn't do. It's doing those kinds of things that allows them to win."

Fellow junior Frank Foti, the Division 1 North Sectional champion at 126 pounds, earned a seventh place finish at the same weight at the All-State Tournament, clinching a spot in the All New England Tournament, battling some of the best wrestlers in the state along the way.

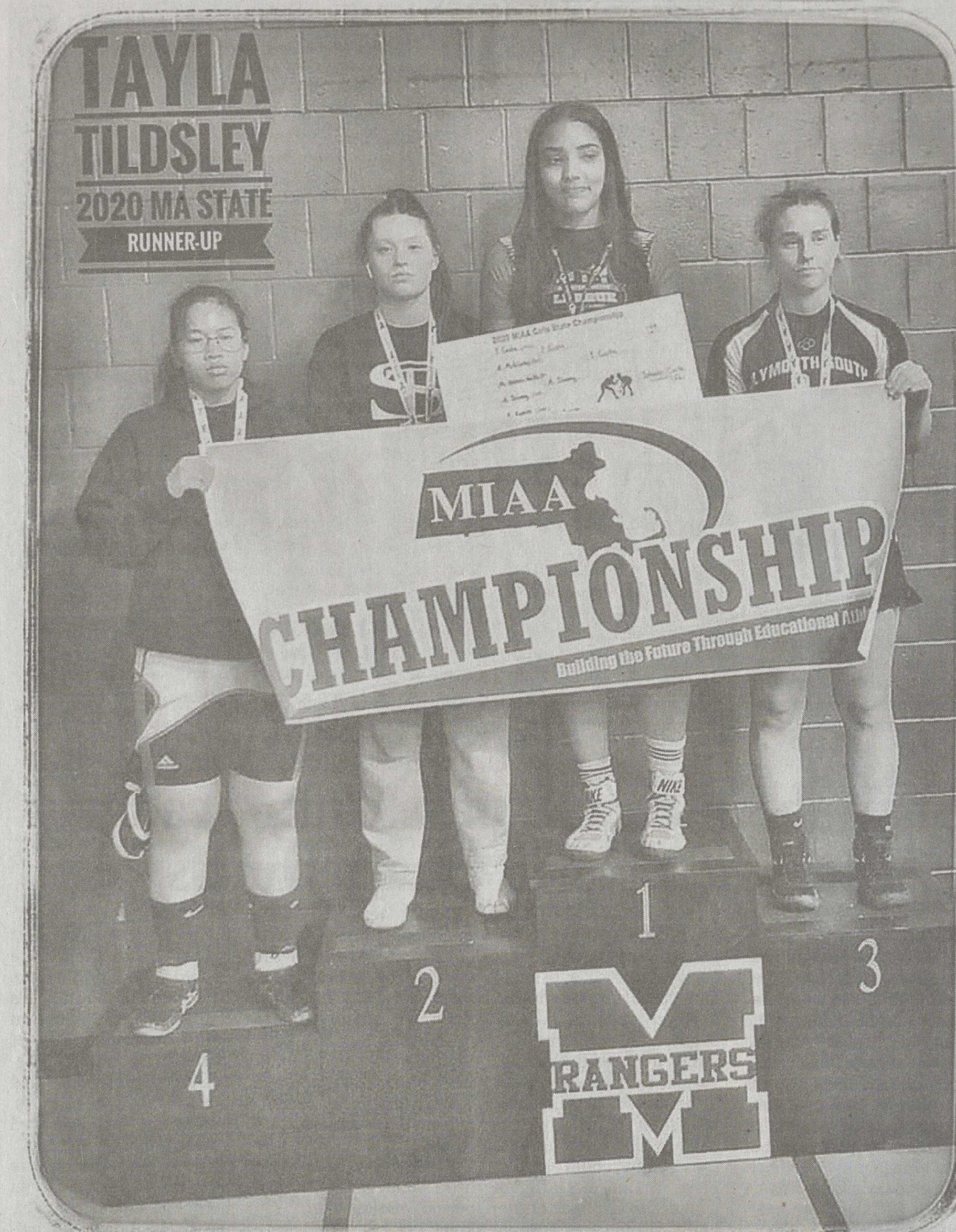
Foti also won his first round match, pinning Zack Lupiani of Mount Everett in his first round matchup, before losing to No. 1 seed and eventual champion Maximilian Leete of Danvers by major decision in the quarterfinals.

Foti fought back however, going 2-1 the rest of the way to clinch his seventh place finish, including an impressive 1-0 win over Ryan Parmenter of Pembroke His one loss came to Aidan Winn of Brockton in overtime. Winn was the same opponent who had eliminated Foti in last week's All-State Tournament. Foti closed out his day and earned his spot in the New England Tournament with a win in his seventh place match over No. 3 seed Connor Keegan of Sandwich with a pin in a time of 1:14.

"The kid he lost to in the quarterfinals is the toughest kid in the weight class, and the seven kids below him can all beat each other," Donovan said. "He did a great job to get a win over the kid from Pembroke, who is the fifth ranked pound for pound wrestler in the state. Frank beat him and ended his career."

Senior Andre Comeau also picked up a victory over the weekend, going 1-2 in the tournament with his lone victory coming over Owen Gaffney of St. John's Prep in a 5-1 decision, before being eliminated by Booker Lester of Saint John's (Shrewsbury) in the consolation round in a hard fought 6-4 decision. Comeau had split a pair of matches with Lester the week before at the Division 1 State Tournament.

"There were something like five seconds left when he lost. He fought a tough match, he just got beat,"



Shawsheen Tech's Tayla Tildsley finished in second place at the All-State Girls Wrestling Tournament held this past Saturday. (courtesy photo).

Donovan said. "He had a great career for us. He worked really hard and got the most out of his ability."

With Foti and Dube moving on to the All New England Tournament this weekend, which will also be held at Methuen High School, Donovan doesn't know how they will fare, but he knows they will certainly be well prepared.

"One hundred twenty six pounds is probably the toughest weight class in

the state and maybe all of New England, and one hundred and twenty is probably second or third," Donovan said. "They both did what they had to do and they wrestled pretty tough, and we will be looking for them to do it again this weekend."

Girls State Wrestling Tournament

The Rams were also well represented on the Girls All-State Tournament which was also held at

Methuen High, as Shawsheen junior Tayla Tildsley earned a second place finish at 149 pounds.

Tildsley had wrestled her way into the finals with a 7-2 win over Kennedy Kampe of Shepherd Hill in the semifinals, before being pinned in her finals match by Yohanni Costa of Malden.

It was the second straight trip to the state finals for Tildsley, who also lost in the finals last year to Costa. She plans on being back again next year, but she is hoping to

be standing on top of the podium next time around.

"It means a lot getting to the finals," Tildsley told the Lowell Sun. "I worked really hard for it. It's hard losing, but it's a great experience, especially with all the women here competing. We're growing the sport and that's awesome."

"I'm really excited to come back next year and give all I've got. I'll keep working and grinding through the spring and keep competing so I can come back strong."

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Harlem Wizards returning to Tewksbury

On Saturday, April 18th at 6 pm, the Harlem Wizards are coming back to Tewksbury Memorial High School. Get ready for wild dunks, fancy tricks, teamwork, game-time comedy and ball handling wizardry.

Ticket prices include: \$12 for general admission (\$15 for the day of the game); \$25 for Reserved Seating (center court seating and \$5 off a \$20 souvenir purchase; \$40 for Courtside Plus (front row and meet and greet the players).

There will be a free autograph session after the game for all ticket holders.

Tickets are available at www.TewksburyHabitatBuild.org now or at Schlott Tire, located at 530 Main Street in Tewksbury.

Tickets purchased online will be available at the Will Call table located at the TMHS gym entrance prior to the start of the game.

Questions? Please contact Tewksbury Habitat Build at 978-710-9494 or info@tewksburyhabitat-build.org.

Tewksbury Habitat Build, a community bases 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation is dedicated to providing affordable housing in Tewksbury.

Redmen March Madness tournament this weekend

The Tewksbury Memorial High School Boys and Girls Basketball teams will be hosting the 'Redmen March Madness Competition' which will be held on March 8, from 9am-3 pm at TMHS and will include music, a DJ and of course lots of fun.

For Grades 3, 4 and 4, there will be dribbling, free throws and Around the World Shooting.

For Grades 5 and 6, there will be dribbling, free throws and hot shots.

And for Grades 7 and 8, there will be dribbling, free throws and three-pointers.

All age levels will end with a knockout that will be offered to everyone free of charge. The winners will be recognized.

The registration fee is \$10 per event or three events for \$25.00. To register and payment information, send email to: MarchMadness@gmail.com.

Letter to the Sports Editor

Fifty-plus years later, Wilmington Youth Hockey Association still strong

Dear Jamie:
Wilmington Youth Hockey is alive and well. Yes, this is the message that our 50 (plus) year-old sports program wants to convey to the community.

Wilmington Youth Hockey currently has over 175 registered players, 11 teams, eight levels, and 31 coaches and has never been stronger. WYHA can boast of placing 37 Massachusetts State Tourney Finalists and won 31 State Tourney Championships. The organization is proud that the program has put our little town on the map by winning five State Championship titles in the last four years.

The program has fed many outstanding players into the Wilmington High School powerhouse hockey team for both boys and girls. Wilmington High School's girls' team is currently competing for the Middlesex League Freedom Division Championship.

There's been a trend over the last few years of players wanting to compete for club teams. Club teams may offer some benefit to players, but at a cost ranging from \$3,000-\$5,000.00 a season. The organization has worked hard to keep the price affordable for the families in its community with and averages a savings of around \$1,500.00 by playing town hockey. A noteworthy savings as most hockey families usually average at least two

players per household.

The organization has prided itself on maintaining an affordable fee for all Wilmington players. The organization has been able to do this through year round fundraising events.

The organization has a very active fundraising committee. One recent event was solely dedicated to the back bone of many hockey families—the formidable Hockey Mom. Events such as the annual street hockey Drop the Puck Season Kick-Off Tournament and summer BBQs have allowed the organization to raise upwards of \$50,000.00 the past few years. This money has been used to help offset related costs to players, purchase bragging rights coats for winning teams, offer free equipment for those learning, and obtaining specific training for the brave souls who have decide to hone in on the craft of playing goalie.

Community has always been an important aspect for the program. With almost 200 registered boys and girls ranging in age from six to 18 there are many players who have literally grown up playing hockey in Wilmington.

Coach Bobby Dodge, a bantam level coach, at a recent WYH function proudly discussed how he grew up playing town hockey and now his own high school aged son, is following in his footsteps and playing as well.

Having parents of the players often acting as the coaches has allowed us consistency and looping with players throughout the years. As a result it is not uncommon for our coaches to have ten years of experience and have achieved the highest level achievable the (CEP) Level 4.

Some of the program's alumni have returned to the program to offer the college level D-1 or D-3 experience to help sustain the program and benefit the kids.

The ever-evolving program offers free skating sessions, outside rink winter classics, Try Hockey Free events, street hockey events, a learn to skate program, and even a local, unofficial pond hockey "tournament" started by past players and their families. WYHA has awarded scholarships to two past players who exemplify community service, work ethic, academic success, and been able to articulate how the skills that they have learned have better prepared them for life.

Some of the past recipients have gone on to attend Worcester Polytechnic Institute, University of Massachusetts, University of New Hampshire, Framingham State, Worcester State, Wentworth, Fitchburg State, North Adams, and the USPHL League.

It is programs like this that are the back-bone of a community and that create a hockey family

who bond over the season with road trips, wins, losses, family nights at the Bruins, UMASS River hawk games, and team dinners.

This past Halloween Eve an impromptu game was put together for the high school aged players who had played in the past for the league, but now are scattered about in the mix of club teams and vocational and private schools.

This last minute pick-up hockey event attracted over thirty players and by all reports was some of the best hockey ever seen at the local rink. It was truly touching to see every caliber of players out there playing their hearts out with limited physicality out of respect for each other's well-being. You could see opponents high-fiving each other, fist bumps, chest pumps, and hugging at the end, it was truly a community who had come to play hockey and most likely enjoy the last time they would be on the ice together.

Many area organizations have their own town rink. The town of Wilmington had intended to be able to be able to have Wilmington kids play at Ristuccia.

Over the past many years, WYHA has been able to agree to purchase ice time from Ristuccia. Unfortunately, with the increase in club teams competing for ice time, and the recent sale of Ristuccia, WYHA and Wilmington High School

are being most impacted. While not having its own dedicated rink has proven to be a challenge throughout the years, Wildcat Hockey has always managed to accommodate its players and doesn't see that being an issue going forward.

Wilmington Youth Hockey Association has overcome ice time challenges and have always delivered an eight month season and opportunities to hit the ice over 100 times in a season.

In a town that has ample tennis courts, football, baseball, and soccer fields the WYH has consistently managed to provide ice to its players even the two years back in 1984 and 1986 when Ristuccia wasn't made available to the Wildcats.

To his credit WYHA Board President, Scott

Audette, is pulling double duty and volunteering for the Town Exploratory Committee to ensure that all viable options are being considered and to assist the town in vetting all sites and locations that will be worth investing in to further grow hockey in our community.

Tryouts are next month and we encourage any Wilmington boy or girl wanting to play hockey to come on down and be part of something great. Check out our website for more details: Wilmington Youth Hockey Association.

Sincerely,
Kathi O'Donoghue, and the entire WYHA Board of Directors

Youth Hockey to award two scholarships to former players

The Wilmington Youth Hockey Organization is seeking applicants for this scholarship valued at \$1,000.00. Applicants should have played in the league at least two years and currently reside in Wilmington.

The two available \$1,000.00 scholarships will only be awarded to two high school seniors who are continuing their education at an accredited trade school or college. Awards will be made based on merit, academi-

cs, work ethic, and community service.

Further information about the application, required information, references, and essay are available online at <http://wilmingtonyouthhockey.org/> or you can contact Kathi O'Donoghue at wyha.scholarship@wilmingtonyouthhockey.org.

Deadline to submit all portions of this application process is April 15, 2020.

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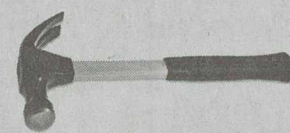
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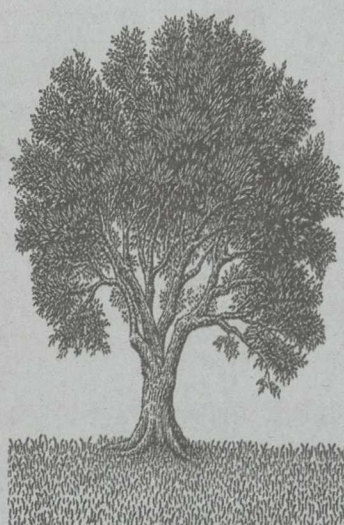
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Penalty Box All-Stars take on Boston Bruins Alumni in fun-filled charity event

By: JOSH CAREDEO
Sports Correspondent

sports@yourtowncrier.com
TEWKSBURY- Hockey lovers, young and old, all came together for a great cause this past weekend.

On Sunday, the Penalty Box All-Stars faced off against the Boston Bruins Alumni at Breakaway Ice Arena.

It was a close contest with a nail biting finish, as the Black and G(old) edged out the Penalty Box team 6-5.

Not only was it a great game between the two squads, it perhaps will be the start of a great partnership between the two establishments.

The Penalty Box Foundation was founded in 2018, under the direction of Drew Laine.

Laine, who scored in Sunday's game, says the mission is simple: support the international hockey community, especially those individuals who have gone through a traumatic event, like a death in a family, a fire, or a sickness.

"The foundation does great work in helping those in need," Laine said.

Laine and representatives from the Bruins Alumni met at a gala in

Boston last year in hopes of getting together for a game.

Both groups spoke very highly of one another, so it was a match made in hockey heaven.

The Boston Bruins Alumni was founded by Bruins legend Johnny "Chief" Bucyk over a half century ago.

During a season, the Bruins play between 20-30 games against teams across New England.

"Tremendous, they are great people," Drew Laine said of the Bruins Alumni. "They have done and continue to do so much for the community, even though they are outside of the game (of hockey); it's amazing."

The Bruins team was coached by none other than Rick "Nifty" Middleton, who played for the Bruins for 12 seasons, and eventually got his No. 16 retired by the team.

In his 10th year as president of the Alumni association, Middleton has high praise for the Penalty Box Foundation.

"They do all the work, we just show up," Middleton chuckled. "But they are a first class organization."



From left, Drew Laine, his son Noah, and Tom Songn, take part in the ceremonial puck drop during Sunday's game between the Boston Bruins Alumni and the Penalty Box All-Stars played at Breakaway Arena in Tewksbury. (courtesy photo/Craig Michaud).

For those who played in the game, they enjoy taking time to do something bigger than just hockey.

Bob Beers, who played four seasons with the Bruins, is a radio color analyst for the team on 98.5 'The Sports Hub.'

He doesn't get to play in as many games as an alumnus during the season, but when he can, it's something that he cherishes.

"It's always great to be with the guys and give back a little bit," said

Beers. "It's fun, you go out, play, have something to eat after, it's great for us."

Bobby Colliton, who runs his own foundation, was asked by Laine to be a defenseman on the Penalty Box team.

He has played the Bruins team in the past. Colliton says he is the only player to tally a Gordie Howe Hat Trick in game against the B's Alumni, in which you score a goal, assist on a goal, and get in a fight. "Hockey is the center of

my life; being able to serve the underprivileged and people through the hockey network is invaluable, I can't do it enough," Colliton said. "It's a challenge, and you go in there and try to play your best, and they let you play your best."

Players like Noel Morin simply like playing time, but feel it is important to help a worthy cause like PBF.

"It's fantastic, everyone can get some ice time, but when you can do a good

thing (too), it's fantastic," Morin said.

Many from this game hope that this partnership lasts for the future. After all, the hockey community is family.

"I'm excited to work with them for years to come," Rick Middleton said.

The Penalty Box All Star Team included Drew Laine, Noel Morin, Geoff Duval, Bobby Colliton, Jon Loudsbury, Heath Gordon, Jamie Walker, Chris Peterson, Steve Calderara, Rich Graham, John Higgins, Ryan McDonald, Billy Murphy, Dan McLaughlin, and Jimmy Leger.

The Boston Bruins Alumni team featured Cleon Daskalakis, Reggie Lemelin, Andrew Raycroft, Glen Featherstone, Kenny Hodge, Ken Linseman, Shawn McEachern, Tom Songn, Mark Mowers, Steve Leach, Bob Beers, Andrew Alberts, Dave Jensen, Graeme Townsend, and Mike Sanford.



On Sunday, the Boston Bruins Alumni Association took on the Penalty Box All-Stars in a fun-filled charity event held at the Breakaway Ice Center in Tewksbury. (courtesy photo/Craig Michaud).



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